# REPORT

ON THE

# ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

# MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

## 1924-25

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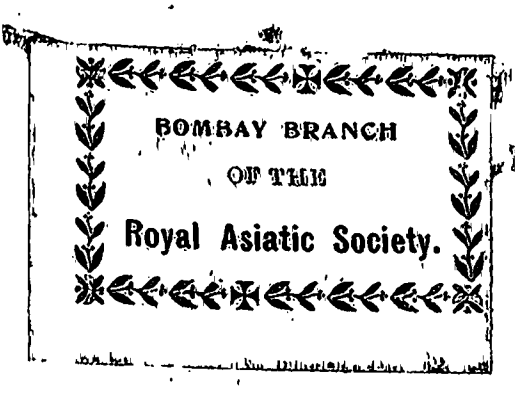


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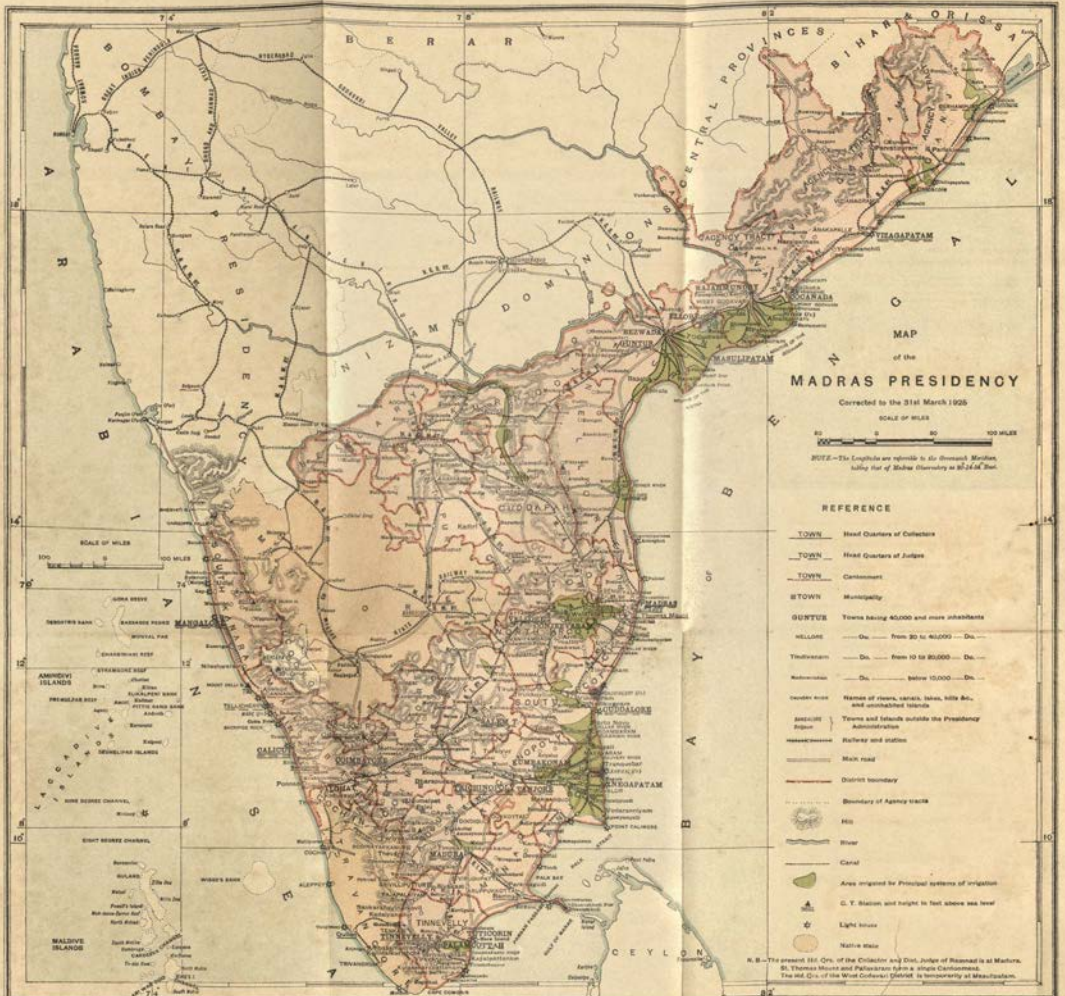


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1925

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# PREFATORY NOTE

In compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1925, and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1924-25 except where it is specifically stated otherwise. In previous years, the report was bound in foolscap size. This year the size has been changed to octavo. An index has been added.

# PART I

## GENERAL SUMMARY

General

1. The year 1925 has been comparatively quiet. The various items of interest will be found in their appropriate places below, but, by way of introduction, the following, which are perhaps the most outstanding features of the year, are mentioned here. The political situation has been generally calm. Non-co-operation for practical purposes has ceased to exist and interest has centred on the Swarajists, whose campaign, which has been attended by a certain amount of success, has compelled other parties to take stock of their position. A remission of Rs. 126 lakhs has been granted in the provincial contribution to the Government of India with the result that there is a surplus of over Rs. 29 lakhs in the budget estimates for 1925–26 and, as was announced by His Excellency the Governor at the opening of the Fourth Session of the Legislative Council, it is proposed to use over Rs. 27 lakhs of this on the Transferred Departments. The chief changes in the administration have been the appointment of the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur in the place of the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., and the Hon'ble Mr. T. E. Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., in place of the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., as Members of the Executive Council. The Kistna district has been bifurcated and a separate Secretariat for

the Public Works Department has been temporarily formed. Crime showed signs of decreasing. Efforts have been made to reduce the arrears both in Civil and in Criminal Courts, though the matter still causes anxiety. Two railway accidents may be mentioned. In April a train ran over some people crossing a railway bridge at night. Trespass on railway lines is excessively common in this Presidency and some of the comments on this accident seemed to overlook the fact that railway lines are intended for trains and not for pedestrians. The other accident took place in the Tanjore district in December. Water had breached the line. A night train ran into the breach. The train overturned, some carriages were telescoped and some people were killed and others injured.

**Political**

2. The year opened with the compromise arrived at between the No-changers and the Swarājists at Belgaum. The Āndhra Provincial Congress Committee, the Tamil Nādu Provincial Congress Committee and the Kērala Provincial Congress Committee all held meetings in January and agreed to the spinning franchise. Nevertheless, the enthusiasm for khaddar was not sufficient to make the spinning franchise workable and the membership of the Congress commenced to decline. The chief interest of Congressmen began to centre in the capture of local bodies. This paved the way for the Swarajists to press their propaganda. Early in March, Mr. V. Ramadas, a Swarajist, was elected to the Council of State. In April, a campaign was started to capture the Madras Corporation for the Congress. Numerous meetings were held in different parts of the City and in spite of counter-propaganda by the Justice Party

and the Independents, eight seats out of ten were secured at the elections. In November, a Swarajist councillor was elected President of the Corporation and three Swarajists have been appointed Chairmen of Municipalities in the mufassal. In furtherance of the policy of capturing local bodies and the Legislative Council, the Āndhra Swarajya Party met in April and resolved to organize parties in each district with this object. In May, the Tamil Nādu Swarajya Party met and decided that the Swarajya Party in the local Legislative Council should form a separate group with the proviso that it might co-operate with other parties if such a step was found expedient. In July, the Tamil Nādu Swarajya Party again met and adopted the resolution passed at the General Council of the All-India Swarajya Party at Calcutta that, granted certain conditions, the Swarajists were prepared to co-operate with the Government. In September, the All-India Congress Committee met at Patna and further altered the Congress franchise and decided that Congress should henceforth function in accordance with the policy of the Swarajya Party. As a result, the Swarajists took advantage of the tide in their favour and launched propaganda to capture the seats in the local Legislative Council at the next elections.

Sir P. Tyagaraya Chetti, who had been the acknowledged leader of the Non-Brahman or Justice Party ever since the death of Dr. Nayar in 1919, died in April. His commanding influence may fairly be said to have had considerable bearing on the cohesion of the party. After his death, efforts were made to unite the Ministerialist and Oppositionist Non-Brahmans. At a public

meeting, the Chief Minister made an appeal for the re-union of the party. Other leading Non-Brahmans protested their readiness to sfhk their differences in the common cause of Non-Brahmans. The party was reorganized with a new programme of work and the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal was elected leader of the party.

Signs of a recrudescence of strong communal feeling in the Presidency have not been wanting. There is a nationalist school (Gurukula) at Sēr̀mā-dēvi in the Tinnevelly district. Agitation was raised because Non-Brahman boys were not allowed to dine with Brahman boys. Dr. P. Varadarajulu Nayudu, President of the Tamil Nādu Congress Committee, toured the country delivering speeches and at some of the meetings there were disturbances. Meetings of protest against his action were held. Some of the Congressmen rebelled and refused to send their quota of yarn to the Provincial Congress Committee. The question came to a head in April, when the Tamil Nādu Congress Committee met at Trichinopoly and decided that the shibboleth of merit based on birth should have no place in Indian social life and appointed a committee to deal with the matter. The result was a distinct split in the Tamil Nādu Congress camp. Some of the leading members of the Congress Committee resigned. However, the death of Dr. Varada-rajulu Nayudu's chief opponent, in June, eased the situation.

The Ezhuvas of Palghat in Malabar are considered untouchable by the high caste Hindus. These Ezhuvas in recent years have begun to embrace Christianity and other religions in the hope that their status may improve. The Arya

Samajists have been quick to welcome them to their fold. There was trouble in 1924 when some Ezhuvas claimed the right to be present at the car festival at Kalpathi. The trouble revived in 1925 in a somewhat different form. On the 31st October a party of Arya Samajists tried to go through the Kalpathi Agraharam, a locality exclusively occupied by orthodox Brahmans. They were opposed on the ground that they were Ezhuvas, a struggle ensued and they stabbed some Brahmans. In view of further anticipated trouble in connexion with the car festival at Kalpathi in November, orders under section 144, Code of Criminal Procedure, were served on Ezhuvas, Cherumas and others, prohibiting them from entering the agraharams.

Mr. Gandhi visited the Presidency in March. The Madras Corporation presented an address and closed the office for the day. On his way to Travancore, the municipalities of Palghat and Tiruppūr also met him and presented addresses. The death of Mr. C. R. Das occasioned condolence meetings throughout the Presidency. It is noteworthy that Guntūr, which used to be a centre of non-co-operation, evinced little enthusiasm. A small public meeting was held. The Municipal Council passed a resolution of condolence at a meeting attended by only eight persons and the Chairman. As a further mark of respect, this municipality spent a sum of Rs. 360 in feeding the poor.

There has been a revival of the labour movement in Madras City and some defunct unions have been resuscitated. Railway unions in the Presidency have been generally active. But the most noteworthy occurrence was a strike of mill

hands at Coimbatore because of a proposed 20 per cent reduction in wages. This strike is dealt with below in the portion of this summary dealing with labour. It need only be mentioned here that the strikers refused to work or to leave the mills and a police guard had to be posted. Next afternoon, a temporary compromise was effected and the men left the premises.

**Economic**

3. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast earlier than usual and there were floods in South Kanara causing some damage to crops. This monsoon was defective on the whole, especially in Bellary, Anantapur, Coimbatore and Salem, and the situation in parts of the first three districts for a time caused some anxiety. The rains towards the close of the south-west monsoon, however, eased the situation except in parts of Coimbatore. The north-east monsoon brought general rains which improved the season prospects in the Presidency generally and more especially in Coimbatore, in which district, however, the situation continued for some time without material improvement. In parts of that district, tanks and wells were dry, crops were withering and pasture and fodder scarce. Famine test works were opened on the 1st December 1925, but they were sparsely attended except where private charity supplemented the wages earned on the works and they accordingly were closed on the 15th of that month. Rain soon improved conditions. Concession rates of reduced freight for transporting fodder from Tanjore district were still in force at the end of the year.

Though the year has been free from the disastrous floods which characterized the two previous years it has not been without its vicissitudes. A

cyclone in Kistna and Guntūr in May did a certain amount of local damage to irrigation works and took a considerable toll of cattle. The heavy rains in November resulted in floods in Tinnevelly and a cyclonic disturbance in the same month off the coast of Malabar resulted in the loss of some eighty fishing boats and twenty-five large sailing craft. The damage caused to crops, trees and buildings by these visitations has, however, been less serious than in previous years.

**Legislative Council**

4. During the year, the Madras Legislative Council sat on 45 days, of which 36 days were allotted for official and 9 days for non-official business. The measures passed were :—

The Madras Civil Courts Bill,

The Cochin Port Trust Bill,

The Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases (Amendment) Bill,

The Madras Indian Ports (Amendment) Bill,

The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Further Amendment) Bill,

The Āndhra University Bill, and

The Madras Borstal Schools Bill.

Of these, the most important was undoubtedly the Āndhra University Bill which is intended to constitute and incorporate a University in and for the Telugu districts of this Presidency. The chief features of this Bill were :—the concentration of higher education in first-grade and "honours" colleges at certain notified centres, the provision of courses of instruction in scientific, technical and technological subjects, the use of the vernacular languages as the medium of instruction and examination and the introduction of a conscience clause. The Madras Civil Courts Bill, another important measure, had been considered by a

Select Committee of the House in the previous year. It enabled the appointment of more than one Judge to any class of Civil Court in the mufassal and, as will be seen below in the section on Civil Justice, a beginning has been made in posting additional Judges to such Courts as need them. The Cochin Port Trust Bill was intended to make provision for the regulation, conservancy and improvement of the port of Cochin, while the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Further Amendment) Bill was intended to enable a member of these bodies to make the oath or affirmation of allegiance at one of the first three meetings held after the date of the commencement of his term of office and to prohibit a member from taking his seat or exercising any right as such member until he has made the oath or affirmation. The Madras Borstal Schools Bill was passed by the Council in December 1925. The main object of the Bill is to enable the Government to provide for the detention of adolescent offenders in special institutions in which they will be given industrial training and other instruction and subjected to such moral and disciplinary influences as will conduce to their reformation. The Borstal School at Tanjore is the only institution of this kind at present and powers are taken under the Bill to establish more such institutions. Provision is made, subject to rules framed by the Government, for the transfer from jails to Borstal schools of adolescent offenders whether convicted before or after the passing of the Act. The Bill also provides for the release on licence of deserving inmates to enable them to enter the service of societies or individuals. The other Bills do not require any special mention.

The Madras Irrigation Bill which had been passed by the Council on the 5th December 1924 was reserved by His Excellency the Governor for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor-General under rule 2 (*c*) of the Reservation of Bills Rules framed under section 81-A of the Government of India Act, and it has not yet become law.

Two important pieces of tenancy legislation are under the consideration of Select Committees ; one of which, viz., the Malabar Tenancy Bill, is intended to define the relationship between landlords and tenants in the Malabar district, a vexed question which has been agitated for nearly half a century. The main object of the Bill is to confer occupancy rights on all cultivating tenants and also on non-cultivating kanamdars and kuzhikanamdars.* It also prohibits the grant of *melkanams*† in any form. The Select Committee which considered this Bill have recently submitted their report. It is likely that the Bill itself will come up for the consideration of the Council in 1926. The other Bill is one to amend the Madras City Tenants' Protection Act, 1922, and is intended to remove some of the anomalies in the administration of the City Tenants' Protection Act that have been brought to light by decisions of Courts.

Another Bill which has just been reported on by a Select Committee is the Madras Local Authorities Entertainment Tax Bill the object of which is to enable local authorities to levy a tax on entertainments and other amusements. The Bill

* A *kuzhikanam* is a tenancy created or continued by a landlord for the purpose of garden cultivation.

† A *melkanam* means a transfer of an interest in a holding in the possession of a tenant or kanamdar entitling the transferee to evict such tenant or kanamdar.

generally follows the Bengal Amusements Tax Act, 1922, and is intended to fetch a substantial revenue to certain local bodies.

The year has been noteworthy for the activity of private members in the matter of legislation. Notices of 27 private Bills were received from members. One of these private Bills was intended to substitute assessment to tax in the place of payment of tax as a criterion of eligibility to vote at elections to local bodies in the mufassal. The Government opposed the Bill and the Council negatived it. Two non-official Bills introduced in 1924 were passed. These were Mr. Swami Venkatachalam Chetti's Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act so as to allow private service of water to houses whose annual rent value is Rs. 60 and upwards, without the previous sanction of the Standing Committee of the Corporation, and Mr. A. S. Krishna Rao's Bill to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, to allow local bodies to divert any accumulated railway cess towards the construction of new roads and bridges. These two Bills are mentioned below in Part II in the section dealing with legislation.

In February 1925, an election was held and the first elected President of the Legislative Council was appointed. This was the late Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai who had till then been nominated President. He died on the 10th of September 1925. An election was held on the 7th of October and the Hon'ble Mr. Ratnaswami was appointed.

The party system in the Council has become more definitely marked. The United Nationalists sat in opposition throughout the year but recently there has been a tendency for the Swarajists to

separate themselves from the other members of the United Nationalist Party. They have asked for and obtained separate seats in the Council.

Government considered and took the necessary action on the resolutions of the Council passed during the Third Session which commenced in August 1924. Of those passed during 1925, the two of greatest interest were a resolution to appoint a committee of the Council to report on the working of the policy laid down in regard to communal representation and to suggest means for the removal of existing inequalities, and one to appoint a committee to inquire into the grievances of the non-gazetted officers of Government. In connexion with the first resolution, Government appointed a committee, but, owing to the present financial condition of the province, they recorded the second resolution. Two of the resolutions passed by the Council in December 1924 and on which Government passed orders in 1925 may be mentioned. One was a recommendation to suspend the revenue on land affected by the floods of 1924 for a period of thirty years. The other was a recommendation to stop emigration to Assam. Government declined to give effect to these resolutions.

The number of resolutions tabled during 1925 was 1,071, of which 24 were discussed in the Council.

1,784 motions to reduce the budget were tabled and, of these, 95 were discussed. During the sitting to discuss demands, there were two motions to adjourn the business of the House—one to discuss the Reforms Inquiry Committee's report and the other to discuss the action of the Legislative

Assembly in voting for the reduction of the salt-tax. These took up the time of the House, with the result that a number of demands had to be disposed of without discussion by means of questions put from the Chair. A token motion, intended to attack the excise policy of the Government, was unsuccessful, but two important token motions, with the objects of proposing a reduction in the strength of the Executive Council and the salaries of its Members, were carried. Motions to omit the allotments for the Settlement branch of the Board of Revenue and for the post of Official Referee, to reduce the allotment for the establishment of the High Court as a protest against the appointment of temporary additional Judges and to reduce the allotments for Jails and for Special Police were carried. His Excellency the Governor certified the allotments for the Settlement branch of the Board of Revenue, for the High Court, for Special Police and half the amount for the Official Referee. The total amount certified was Rs. 3,25,500. As a mark of protest, the Opposition stayed away from the Council after lunch on the day on which the certifications were announced. On 30th March, the day before the close of the sitting, the discussion of certain demands for further grants was adjourned *sine die* because the Government were not prepared to announce at once how it was proposed to utilize the sum of Rs. 126 lakhs which had been remitted by the Government of India.

There were 14 notices of motion for adjournment of the business of the Council to "discuss definite matters of urgent public importance." Some of these were disallowed by His Excellency the Governor or by the President and six were

discussed. Dissatisfaction with particular actions of Government or their officers was generally the cause of these motions.

A remarkable feature of the year was the increase in the number of questions put in Council by non-official members. The number of questions received was 2,705, of which 1,820 were starred and 885 were unstarred. Of these, 305 questions were disallowed. Out of 2,400 questions admitted, the number of questions answered in Council was 1,960, of which 1,340 were starred. As was explained last year, the system of starred questions was introduced because the number of questions became so great. Starred questions carry the right to ask supplementary questions. So much time had been wasted in preparing answers to and answering questions about which Government could have no definite knowledge or in which the information required was already available in published reports or which were not really questions at all but were intended to draw the attention of Government to some particular matter or grievance, that the President addressed the Council and desired members to use discretion in requiring Government to supply information.

**Police**

5. The outstanding features of the year in police administration were the imposition of punitive police in part of Anantapur district and a riot at Uttangi in Bellary district in which the police had to use firearms. The situation in Anantapur had been a source of anxiety for some time. There had been a series of crimes due to faction, but owing to lack of satisfactory evidence, it had not been possible to have the persons responsible convicted. After an inquiry held by a judicial officer, Government decided, in July,

that punitive police (already imposed) were necessary. They directed that the cost, so far as it should fall on the inhabitants, should be borne by the partisans of the two factions at Chintalacheruvu—the storm centre—and by such residents of other villages in that area who have associated themselves with those factions.

The riot at Uttangi was a serious matter. There has been a long-standing feud between two rival religious sects in that neighbourhood owing to the attempts of one sect to take their Guru in procession through Uttangi. On the 19th October, the Joint Magistrate, the District Superintendent of Police and a party of Reserve constables were proceeding through the village on their way to meet the Guru at the other end and escort him through the village. On its way, the party of police was attacked. Stones were thrown from the housetops and a threatening mob came up behind the party. Several constables were injured, one seriously. Part of the Reserve was faced about and the mob was warned but without result. There was imminent danger of the mob rushing the party and finally—after two ineffective volleys of buckshot—a volley of ball was fired. The police were then able to move forward to stop the procession waiting to enter the village. The crowd followed and attempted to outflank the police on both sides so as to reach the Guru. Eventually, the Guru and his procession got away without injury and the mob from the village dispersed. The casualties amongst the rioters were 3 killed and 14 injured. Of the police party, 17 were injured, of whom two were very seriously wounded. There is no doubt that, but for the action taken by the police, it would have

been impossible to protect the Guru and the riot might have developed into a massacre.

There have been two other serious riots due to faction during the year—one in the Nellore district where 40 houses were looted, and one in the Cuddapah district in which the assailants used firearms.

Certain changes in the organization of the police force have been made during the year. The old Kistna district has been divided and now forms the Kistna and West Gōdāvari district, the old Gōdāvari district being known as East Gōdāvari. The police districts of North Malabar and South Malabar have been reconstituted by transferring the Palghat subdivision from South Malabar to North Malabar. The two police districts in Malabar are now known as Malappuram (old South Malabar) and Malabar (old North Malabar). Personal assistants to District Superintendents of Police were dispensed with early in the year and 22 additional subdivisions were formed.

The King's Police Medal was awarded to five officers, and a bar to his medal to another. One officer received the title of O.B.E., one the title of M.B.E., three became Rao Bahadur and four Rao Sahib. Rewards were freely granted to the members of the force and to private persons. In particular, the police had been of great assistance during the floods of July 1924 in the Tanjore district and, for this, Government sanctioned rewards amounting to Rs. 840. Advance has been made in the work of reclaiming Kallars and crime committed by persons of this caste has decreased. Some further information regarding these people is given below in dealing with the activities of the Labour Department.

**Criminal justice**

6. As regards the administration of criminal justice, the year has been marked by an almost complete absence of "political" offences and a fairly general decrease in the amount of ordinary crime It is not unlikely that seasonal conditions more favourable than in the previous year have had a good effect on public morality. Possibly also the freedom of the police from the task of suppressing political disturbances may have given them more chance of coping with the activities of the professional criminal, whose operations have been largely restricted by the use of the Criminal Tribes Act and the security provisions of the Procedure Code. A gradual extension of the activities of Village and Bench Courts has been going on and is reported to have had a good effect on the peace of the districts. It may be mentioned—it does not find place in last year's summary—that three women were appointed as Honorary Presidency Magistrates at the end of 1924. They sat on the Bench during 1925.

**Civil justice**

7. The recent tendency of the volume of civil litigation to increase appears to have received a check, probably on account of the state of the money market and the cessation of the abnormal fluctuations of trade and exchange which followed the war. It is only in insolvency that there has been any marked increase in institutions. The Courts, however (and especially the High Court), are still suffering from the congestion which resulted from post-war conditions. It has been found necessary to continue the term of the two additional Judges of the High Court (making 11 in all); with this large number of Judges, the High Court is beginning to make some substantial headway against its arrears, but of course the

process is necessarily a slow one. The position as regards arrears in the mufassal is very much the same as it was in 1924, but there has at any rate been no general or pronounced deterioration. The judicial bifurcation of the Kistna district is to be completed early in 1926. Progress has been made with the experiment of posting additional Judges to permanent courts instead of creating additional courts. Nine more districts have been given separate Official Receivers in bankruptcy. There is a general consensus of opinion that the Village Panchayat Courts are increasing in popularity and providing a speedy and cheap remedy for petty wrongs.

8. The daily average number of convicts and under-trial prisoners in jails has been less than in 1924, but the average number of civil and State prisoners has increased. The number of prison offences also has declined. There were disturbances in the Trichinopoly and Palamcottah jails by certain unruly Mappillas, but they were soon put down. The elementary education, given to male convicts under 30 years of age and which is referred to in previous reports, was extended during the year to women convicts at Rajahmundry and Vellore. Twenty-two adolescents were released from the Borstal School, Tanjore, on probation, for service under private employers and 130 prisoners were released from jails on the recommendation of the Advisory Boards. **Prisons**

*The general good health of prisoners noted last year continued during 1925 and there were no outbreaks of epidemic disease. But the number of deaths has increased from 194 to 215,* of which ıkty were due to pulmonary tuberculosis. All prsons newly admitted are now given treatment

for hookworm which, as will be seen from the section on Births and Deaths in Chapter VI of Part II of this report, is ubiquitous in this Presidency. The water-supply scheme for the Alipuram Jail has been completed and the systems at Salem and Bellary improved. Various sanitary improvements have been made.

The two Government certified schools for offenders of tender years were removed from the control of the Educational Department to that of the Jail Department during the year.

Progress has been made in the development of jail industries. A cotton spinning mill at the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and a woollen spinning mill at the Central Jail, Bellary, are being erected. The Borstal School, Tanjore, is now supplied with electricity and the Central Jail, Bellary, is being connected up with the town supply.

**Registration and Companies**

9. It is mentioned in Part II of this report that up to the end of the year 1924–25, no new life assurance company had been registered since the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act of 1912 came into force. This is no longer so. A new company, called the Āndhra Insurance Company, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 10 lakhs, has been registered later in the year 1925. Amongst other new companies registered, the most important is the Associated Publishers (Madras), Limited—a holding company—with an authorized capital of Rs. 24 lakhs. There has been no expansion in the number of registered companies; this is probably due to the tightness of the money market.

**Co-operation**

10. During the year the upper controlling staff of the Co-operative Department was reorganized with a view to make the department self-contained

and self-sufficient, affording adequate prospects for each grade and class of officer. The system of Honorary Assistant Registrars was extended, the number appointed being 207 as compared with 85 in the previous year. Except in a few cases, the appointments are linked up with the local supervising unions and the selections were made in consultation with the unions.

The formation of new societies and the consolidation of old societies progressed very satisfactorily during the year. The working capital of societies of all classes was nearly 10 crores at the end of June 1925.

The Provincial Co-operative Union conducted a training class for the office-bearers of societies and other non-official workers in the movement, for which purpose Government sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 1,200 for five years. Considerable progress was made in the matter of federating local unions into district organizations. These district federations have as their object the co-ordination of the work of the local unions, the provision of an efficient and well-trained non-official co-operative staff, and the promotion of co-operative education and propaganda.

The work of trading societies was more satisfactory than in 1924. An interesting feature of the year's work was the large amount advanced on the pledge of agricultural produce and on standing crops with a view to enable the ryot to hold up his produce for a better market and get the maximum return for his labour and expenditure.

The beginning made in 1924 in the way of mobilizing labour on a co-operative basis was developed with advantage both to the employers of labour and the labourers themselves.

One noteworthy feature in the development of the co-operative movement in the Presidency during the year was the formation of special societies for the reclamation of valuable lands which were covered with heavy deposits of sand or otherwise rendered unfit for cultivation as a result of the floods in July 1924. These societies are financed by Government who have also lent them tramway plant to facilitate the removal of sand. A special staff has also been sanctioned for the supervision of these societies.

Effect was given to the scheme evolved in 1924 for the starting of land mortgage banks, and all the four banks for which Government promised, under certain conditions, to underwrite debentures, have been registered during the year.

The problem of cattle insurance on a co-operative basis was again tackled during the year. Model by-laws were drawn up in consultation with the Chief Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, and two cattle insurance societies, the first of their kind in this Presidency, were registered. Government have undertaken to meet any loss incurred, subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 1,000, by the three first experimental societies.

The non-official co-operative supervising agencies continued to increase in strength and efficiency and in the more developed districts they are taking a large and steadily increasing part in the various non-statutory duties which formerly were left mainly, if not entirely, to the Registrar and his departmental staff. As a result, the departmental staff is enabled to devote a larger share of its time and attention to its statutory functions, i.e., registration, audit and liquidation.

Local Boards and Municipalities

11. As in 1924, the restoration of the finances of district and taluk boards engaged the attention of Government. In a number of districts, the district committees mentioned last year, which consist of the Presidents of district and taluk boards, the Collector and the Treasury Officer, framed normal budgets for a number of local boards in various districts. These were considered by Government. As a result of the decision of Government to abolish such taluk boards as were unable, owing to insufficiency of funds, to maintain their services, the Rayadrug Taluk Board in the Bellary district was abolished during the year. In the Malabar district, four taluk boards were amalgamated into two. In other districts, five taluk boards were split up and have now given place to twelve boards. In the case of one old board affected, the change is to take effect from 1st January 1926.

The privilege of electing the President was extended to two more district boards and to four taluk boards.

Local bodies now maintain banking accounts for their elementary education funds, distinct from the account relating to their general funds. The compilation of the accounts of taluk boards is now done in the offices of the district boards and Government pay to each district board a subsidy equal to the average pay of a specified number of accountants. Government ordered, early in the year, that local bodies must not overdraw their accounts in treasuries.

An amendment to the Madras City Municipal Act (1919) and one to the Madras Local Boards Act (1920) may be mentioned. The minimum annual rental value of a house in Madras City which will

entitle it to water-supply connexions has been reduced from Rs. 120 to Rs. 60. Local bodies which have an accumulation of railway cess levied under the old Local Boards Act of 1884 have now been permitted to use it for the construction of new roads and bridges.

With a view to improve communications in villages, Government granted Rs. 6·25 lakhs to local bodies for that purpose, the condition being that local bodies in each district should ordinarily contribute a sum equal to the grant for that district. The amount of Rs. 6·25 lakhs granted was allotted from the remission in the provincial contribution to the imperial exchequer. The movement to establish panchayats in villages so that the villagers may manage their own affairs appears to be gaining strength. During the year over two hundred new panchayats were formed under the Madras Village Panchayat Act (1920).

**Trade and Ports**

12. Coming to Trade, the receipts and tonnage handled at the port of Madras have continued to expand. Exports of cotton have been increasing. During the latter part of the year, the passenger traffic to and from Rangoon and the Straits Settlements has been exceptionally heavy at Madras. There has been no great change in the trade of minor ports during the year.

The provisions of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act, 1924, came into full effect at the end of 1924 and the Port Trust Board has now assumed the management of the port. The work in connexion with the proposed deep harbour at this port, referred to last year, continued. Government have sanctioned a scheme to construct a deep harbour at Cochin, costing approximately Rs. 45 lakhs. During the year, the Legislative Council passed the

Cochin Port Trust Bill ; it has received the assent of the Governor-General. The port of Vizagapatam has been separated from the eastern group of ports, a separate fund has been constituted and it has been declared a major port.

13. The Agricultural Department has been pursuing its normal activities in education, research, in aiding the cultivator in dealing with the pests which so sadly hamper his crops and in demonstrating to him the advantages of improved methods of cultivation and new appliances. **Agriculture**

The certificate course at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, has been abolished in 1925. As mentioned in Part II of this Report, there were only 49 applicants for the Degree course at the College and, out of those selected, only 18 remained at the College during the session. The two agricultural middle schools have not entirely fulfilled expectations and the number of students who have completed courses and returned to cultivate their land is small.

Research on paddy breeding continued. A new station has been opened in East Gōdāvari district and funds for opening another, in Malabar, have been sanctioned by the Legislative Council. Government have accepted the proposal of the Indian Central Cotton Committee to make an annual contribution of Rs. 55,000 for research work on cotton. The Cotton Ginning and Factories Act, 1925, came into force on the 8th August. The Act is intended to provide the cotton trade with means of checking the mixing of cotton and other malpractices at the time of ginning and pressing. The Cotton Transport Act was brought into force on the 24th November and has been applied to various places in the Presidency. The sugarcane

station at Coimbatore was handed over to the Government of India with effect from the 1st April. The department maintains certain stations for fruit culture; a record crop of mangosteens was obtained at the Burliar Fruit Gardens, and at Coonoor the apple plantation continued to improve. There has been a remarkable increase in the practice of spraying rubber trees with Bordeaux mixture to prevent secondary leaf fall.

In the Chemistry section of the department 1,441 samples were analysed during the year. The soil survey of North Malabar has been completed. Various experiments on manures were conducted.

The introduction of parasites has definitely set back the *nephantis* pest in Mangalore and other parts of the South Kanara district. This pest has assumed fairly large proportions in British Cochin and arrangements have been made in collaboration with the Cochin State authorities to fight the pest in British Cochin and in the State. A campaign against the *spodoptera* pest has been arranged in Malabar.

The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act was applied to the cultivation of Cambodia cotton, the coconut caterpillar, and the palm disease in the Circars. The latest date for uprooting cotton has been provisionally fixed at the 1st September. There were outbreaks of *mahali* disease of areca-nuts in Malabar and South Kanara. Co-operative societies gave considerable assistance to the department in spraying operations.

The Remount Depot at Hosūr which was taken over in 1924 has been converted into the Central Cattle Farm. It consists of 1,635 acres of land and is admirably suited for a cattle farm.

14. Another Government organization which gives direct help to the ryot is the Civil Veterinary Department. **Veterinary**

During 1925, the Madras Presidency has been revisited by a severe epidemic of rinderpest, which has carried off a large number of cattle in the districts of Kistna, Kurnool, Bellary and South Kanara. As in past epidemics, the districts first affected were those bordering on the Native States of Hyderabad and Mysore. As Government have accepted the principle of compulsory inoculation by the "serum alone" method against rinderpest, which gives a temporary immunity, the Madras Cattle Disease Act II of 1866 has been enforced and compulsory inoculation carried out in several of the villages in the districts affected. From the 1st April 1925 no fee has been charged for inoculations by this method, and there has therefore been a very great increase in the number performed voluntarily. Unfortunately, however, this appears to have had little effect on the general course of the disease, which has now become widespread.

A further advance can be reported in the application of the "serum simultaneous" method of inoculation against rinderpest, which is the most efficient way of dealing with the disease. Altogether, 358 animals, some belonging to Government and some to private persons, have been permanently protected by this method during the year.

During the year three new veterinary dispensaries have been opened and three new touring posts created, thus making a total of 75 institutions and 80 touring posts now working in this Presidency.

Recently, a temporary appointment of Veterinary Adviser to Government, with administrative

control of the whole Civil Veterinary Department including the Madras Veterinary College, has been made.

**Fisheries**

15. The activities of the Fisheries Department are both remunerative and educational.

After a lapse of over a quarter of a century the prospects of the pearl fisheries appear promising. The results of inspections conducted during the year have shown that oysters have reached their maximum size on many of the banks. On the Tholayaram Par alone, which is the largest and most productive of the Tuticorin pearl banks, there are over 12 crores of mature oysters. Arrangements are being made to fish these banks early in 1926.

Many chank divers left India during the year to take part in the pearl fishing in Ceylon. This seriously affected the receipts from chank fishing in India, which is the main source of revenue of the department.

For three years in succession, the fishing season on the West Coast was a failure, but the current season which commenced in September seems to be favourable for mackerel. Sardines, however, continue to be scarce. The Tanur Experimental Station and the Cannery continued to work at a loss, the former because of the poor fishing season and the latter owing to the difficulty in marketing the canned goods. On account of the large stocks awaiting sale, the Cannery has suspended manufacture since April.

The department took over the management of all fish-curing yards in the Presidency on 1st of April 1924. During the official year 1924–25 the enhanced issue price of salt and the economies effected in the purchase and transport of salt

almost eliminated the recurring losses which Government have been incurring in the past few years in the working of these yards.

The department continued its work for the social and economic improvement of the fishing community on the West Coast, and the number of pupils attending fisheries schools increased by 449 during the year.

Forests

16. The system of handing over certain reserved forests to be managed by panchayats was referred to last year. During 1925, considerable progress has been made in forming panchayats and there has been some improvement in the protection of the forests. The control of the reserved forests under panchayat management has been transferred to the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement). Owing to the transfer of these reserves to panchayats, it has been possible to abolish three forest divisions.

In order to improve the methods of working valuable forests, one of the six forest circles, each of which is in charge of a Conservator, has been abolished and, in its place, a working plan circle under a Conservator has been formed.

The exploitation of the Chenat Nayar forests in Malabar, mentioned last year, continued and the operations were placed on a properly organized footing, costs of extraction being much reduced. The saw-mill and seasoning plant in connexion with these forests which were being constructed at Olayakkode at the end of 1924 were completed during 1925. The saw-mill at Russellkonda in Ganjām was closed temporarily from the middle of May, as the plant required overhauling and there was a large accumulation of sawn timber awaiting disposal. A portable saw-mill worked by

a Fordson tractor has been installed at Beypore to saw teak from the Nilambur forests in Malabar into railway sleepers. Government have sanctioned the erection of three other such saw-mills for the same purpose, one in the Wynaad forests, one in the Mount Stuart forests and one in South Kanara.

Considerable advance in the organization of the commercial side of the department has been made during the year. A Forest Economist has been appointed to investigate the uses to which forest produce can be put and to collect information likely to be of value to the consumer. An Assistant Forest Utilization Officer has been appointed to deal exclusively with minor forest produce. A quantity of rosewood and Indian laurel was sent to Messrs. Howard Brothers of London for sale. The prices obtained were very satisfactory, especially in the case of rosewood.

The system of early burning under departmental management, mentioned last year, was still further extended, and as a result the expenditure on fire protection has been reduced.

**Industries**

17. The functions of the Department of Industries are mainly educational, both in the narrower sense that it affords organized instruction in various arts and crafts and in the sense that it fosters industries by demonstrating improved methods and by running certain pioneer factories. It also conducts research into industrial problems and puts the inquirer in touch with markets.

Under the State Aid to Industries Act, four loans were sanctioned and disbursed to industrial concerns during the year. The most important was a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs to the Carnatic Paper Mills, Ltd. Applications from this Company for

further loans amounting to Rs. 4 lakhs are under the consideration of Government. As in the previous year, the Bureau of Commercial and Industrial Information dealt with a large number of inquiries on commercial subjects. The Department of Industries assisted persons interested in the match industry by informing them what timbers were likely to be suitable and by placing them in touch with manufacturers of up-to-date machinery and chemicals. The appointment of Industrial Chemist was abolished in March. Major chemical problems are now dealt with in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, to which Government recently sanctioned a contribution of Rs. 10,000. The Leather Research Chemist deals with minor chemical problems. The Kērala Soap Institute at Calicut has continued to work satisfactorily, as also the Industrial Institute, Madras, which manufactures ink. This Institute has improved the quality of its ink and has placed several new varieties on the market. The Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor has not succeeded in establishing itself as a paying concern. As is mentioned in Part II of this report, Government have decided that the Institute should continue for the present. It is proposed to hand over the Pallapālaiyam Sugarcane Crushing Factory to a co-operative society. The question of setting up other crushing plants in suitable areas can then be taken up. The peripatetic weaving parties were at work during the year. As is said in Part II of this report, the number of parties has been reduced to five. The manufacturing section of the Textile Institute was occupied with the construction and supply of improved types of hand-looms and other

appliances. This Institute has 32 students undergoing courses. The power-driven machinery in connexion with the warp preparation factory, referred to last year, was operated during 1925. The plant seems to be of the type most suitable for the conditions in this Presidency. The plantation on the land referred to in Part II of this report as having been acquired for the expansion of mulberry cultivation at the Coonoor Silk Farm has been attacked by a virulent fungus and consequently the construction of a rearing house for the farm has been deferred for the present. 10,510 layings were supplied to Kollegal and 1,810 layings to other places. Three improved modern drills have been obtained for boring purposes and are now being subjected to preliminary trials. During the year, 459 boreholes were put down, the total depth bored being 22,348 feet, sixty-five industrial plants were erected and an amount of Rs. 64,000 was sanctioned as loans to persons wishing to instal pumping machinery.

The work of the various classes in the Madras Trades School improved, the number of apprentices under training in the Madura Industrial Institute reached the maximum of 120 and there are now nearly 450 pupils on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts. Two State technical scholarships fell vacant during the year and were duly awarded, while three new scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science and five new scholarships for study at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were granted during the year. The number of recognized industrial schools has increased to 52. A grant was made during the year to assist a scheme for training

Mappillas in the rebel area in Malabar in cottage industries.

18. The labour situation has been generally calm. The only strike of importance was that of the weavers of the Mall Mills, Coimbatore, on the 25th April 1925 as a result of the reduction in wages ordered by the management. The strikers sat down on the floor beside the looms, refusing either to work or to leave the premises. They remained there starving and thirsty until 3-30 p.m. the next day when at the intervention of the Collector an amicable settlement was arrived at. The form of strike was a novel one, resembling as it did a Satyagraha, and presented a problem of considerable difficulty. **Labour**

The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union, the Madras Tramwaymen's Union, the Corporation Scavengers' Union, the Unions of South Indian Railway employees and the Coimbatore Labour Union were all active during the year. The Madras Printers' Union and the Harbour and Port Trust Workmen's Union which were defunct have now been revived. The Railway Unions are negotiating with the Agents of their respective railways for recognition. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union has altered its rules to meet the views of the Agent and it is anticipated that it will shortly be recognized.

As in the previous year, the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, and the rules thereunder were applied to emigration to Ceylon and Malaya. The number of emigrants to these colonies increased considerably. There were over 100,000 emigrants to Ceylon from Dhanushkodi port, 25,000 to Malaya from Madras and 30,500 to the Straits Settlements from

Negapatam. The increased emigration was due to unfavourable agricultural conditions in parts of the recruiting areas owing to the failure of the monsoon. The application of the Act and the rules thereunder is producing good results, amongst which are the check which is imposed on improper methods of recruitment by the Kanganies and the provision of facilities for the return of emigrants who fall ill or find the conditions in the colonies unsuitable.

Special staffs under District Labour Officers continued to be employed on the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes in the districts of East Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Bellary and South Kanara. An Honorary District Labour Officer was appointed during the year for the Malabar district. The ameliorative measures carried on by the Labour Department are the grant of Government lands for cultivation, the provision of house-sites by acquisition of patta lands as well as by assignment of poramboke, the starting of schools and co-operative societies, the grant of scholarships and fee remissions, the provision of pathways, of burial-grounds and similar activities. There are about 700 schools (excluding those for Kallars), with a strength of 23,000 pupils, maintained at the cost of the department. About 1,248 wells have been dug. The number of co-operative societies is about 1,000. A hostel for the benefit of Ādi-Āndhra students from the Northern Circars was opened at Masulipatam during the year and has a sanctioned strength of 50 boarders.

In June last various allegations of oppression by caste Hindus of the Ādi-Drāvidas in South

Arcot district appeared in the Madras Press. The Commissioner of Labour made a short tour in the district to investigate these and found they were either untrue or greatly exaggerated. His report on the matter was placed on the Editors' table. He pointed out that the unfortunate fact underlying the press campaign appeared to be that the Members of the Legislative Council representing the depressed classes were supplied with their information by certain irresponsible persons who for their own ends gave misleading and exaggerated accounts of any "incidents" that they might come across. In spite of incidents such as those which occurred in South Arcot there are, on the whole, signs of an improvement in the relations between the depressed classes and caste people.

The working of the criminal settlements was on the whole satisfactory. Sītanagaram, however, suffered severely from the cyclone in April last which, in addition to causing serious damage to the settlement buildings, threw the work of the year out of gear, both industrially and agriculturally. At the Pallāvaram settlement, a carpet industry was started during the year.

The opening of a girls' school at Nellore as an industrial school for the children of the criminal tribes deserves mention.

At Kāvali, an increasing number of families are becoming able to support themselves on the land at Bitragunta and Allūr without calling on the settlement authorities for assistance. At the Kāvali reformatory settlement, on the other hand, the difficulty of finding suitable employment for the settlers within the enclosures continues.

The reclamation of Kallars in the Madura and Rāmnād districts continues to make most

satisfactory progress. The output of the industrial centres is improving both in quality and quantity. New home workers' centres, on a fairly large scale, have been started in two villages where nearly 30 Kallars are at work. There are now about 317 schools with a strength of about 9,900 boys and girls. The number of co-operative societies amongst the Kallars is now about 200.

In the Tanjore district, where the work of reclamation was started in 1924, there has hitherto been no scope for any marked advance for want of adequate funds and staff, but good work was done in running the 34 schools in connexion with the scheme.

**Public works**

19. An outstanding feature of the year in regard to the Public Works Department has been the provisional formation of a separate Public Works Secretariat. The two Chief Engineers have been relieved of their secretarial functions which are now performed by a non-technical Secretary.

As a result of the inquiry held into the possibility of reducing temporary establishment referred to last year, a number of temporary posts of executive upper subordinates, clerks, etc., which have been continuously in existence for the last ten years or more to meet permanent requirements, have now been made permanent. During the year, a special temporary division with a subdivision has been formed for the execution of a water-supply scheme for the town of Coimbatore and another special temporary division with four subdivisions has been sanctioned to execute work required for the Cauvery irrigation system. The Secretary of State has sanctioned the execution of the Cauvery (Metur) reservoir project works and, as a result, the special division, constituted last

year to carry out preliminary works, continues, and another division called the Delta Head Works and Canal System Division has been formed. The project, as a whole, has been constituted a circle of superintendence with a senior Superintending Engineer in charge for the present. The object of the scheme is to provide a reservoir which will in the first place regularize and safeguard the supply of water for an area of over a million acres of irrigated crop in the Cauvery delta (the supply is at present liable to extraordinary fluctuations and to failure at critical seasons) and in the second place enable irrigation to be extended to 300,000 acres of land now unirrigated. It involves the construction of a masonry dam (which will be larger than any dam now in existence and will form a reservoir with an effective capacity of 93,500 million c.ft.) at Metur below the junction of the Cauvery and Bhavāni rivers, and a main irrigation canal about 88 miles in length, with a connected distributory system, having its (off-take) on the right bank of the Cauvery above the existing Grand Anicut. The new irrigation is expected to add 150,000 tons of rice to the food-supply of the country. The estimated cost of the project as a whole is Rs. 612 lakhs and the net revenue with water-rates at Rs. 15 per acre for the first crop and Rs. 7-8-0 for the second is estimated to be rather over Rs. 46½ lakhs per annum, representing a return of nearly 7½ per cent on the sum at charge. The scheme will be financed from loans. The programme contemplated in the estimate provides for the completion of all work in ten years and for the realization of the full revenue by the twelfth year; but an acceleration of this programme is under consideration. An

obelisk to mark the inauguration of the work was unveiled at Metur in July by His Excellency Viscount Goschen who was accompanied by the Irrigation Member (the Hon'ble Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar) and most of the other Members of the Government.

A temporary division with an additional subdivision has been formed for the investigation of hydro-electric schemes and a temporary appointment of Chief Engineer for a period of three months was made for the development of such schemes. An examination of the possibilities of hydro-electric supply in the Presidency was made by Mr. S. G. Forbes, Chief Electrical Engineer of the Mysore Government, at the beginning of 1924 and he reported favourably on four schemes for the south of the Presidency, four for the Madras-Nilgiri area, one for the north and one for the west coast. It has been decided to take up first the Pykara scheme, in which power will be generated near the Pykara falls and will be transmitted to the Nilgiris and Coimbatore and ultimately to Madras *via* Tiruppūr and Villupuram. Negotiations have been completed for the repurchase of the concession given to a syndicate for the development of power from the Pykara ; and the scheme will be taken up by the Government, probably in conjunction with the South Indian Railway. The estimates which have been prepared for the scheme indicate that there should be a return of about 11 per cent on a capital expenditure of under two crores ; but before final approval they are to be further examined by a firm of consultants. The Pykara scheme will make power available for the South Indian Railway ; and the question of the electrification of the

[redacted] lines round Madras, as well as of other [redacted]he railway system, is being explored. [redacted]le progress has also been made with the [redacted]ion of schemes to develop power at Pinji- [redacted] the Palnis) and at Pāpanāsam (in Tinne [redacted]). It is proposed to take up the former first, as it will be able to supply the South Indian Railway at Madura. The Government have declared that their general policy will be to keep in their own hands the development of the generation of power from water and its main transmission, but to encourage private enterprise in local distribution.

Besides the Cauvery (Metur) project, the Pōlavaram Island project in Gōdāvari, estimated to cost Rs. 18·55 lakhs, has been sanctioned and the work commenced, an estimate of Rs. 3·95 lakhs has been sanctioned for constructing locks and regulators at the heads of the Ellore and Bandar canals, and estimates of Rs. 3·05 lakhs for improvements to the Veeranam tank in South Arcot and of Rs. 6½ lakhs (preliminary) for constructing a bed regulator across the Cauvery at Kattalai have been sanctioned and the works are in progress.

**Finance**

20. The finances of the Presidency improved and after a series of years of financial deficits the year 1923–24 provided a surplus of Rs. 28 lakhs. The surplus was utilized for the purpose of paying off outstanding advances from the Government of India.

The budget estimates for 1924–25 anticipated a [redacted]urther surplus of Rs. 15·18 lakhs which was also [redacted]o be utilized towards the repayment of advances [redacted]aken from the Government of India. It was [redacted]nticipated in the report on the administration of [redacted]he Presidency for 1923–24 that the abnormal

conditions of the year 1924-25, wh[redacted] combined famine with floods of unp[redacted] magnitude, rendered it unlikely that th[redacted] surplus would be realized. The above ant[redacted] proved correct and the year 1924-25 closed [redacted] deficit of Rs. 23 lakhs.

This was mainly the result of a decrease in revenue as compared with the budget under "Land Revenue" and "Excise," due to the unfavourable character of the season prevailing in various parts of the Presidency. The decrease in revenue was to some extent counterbalanced by decrease in expenditure under various heads.

The budget estimates for 1925–26 were presented to the Legislative Council on 2nd March 1925 and the estimates revealed a deficit of Rs. 88·03 lakhs in the year. Subsequently, however, remission of a sum of Rs. 126·02 lakhs in the provincial contribution for the year was made by the Government of India, and this factor, combined with certain minor modifications made after the budget was presented to the Legislative Council, converted the deficit into a surplus of Rs. 29·58 lakhs. It has been proposed to utilize this surplus mainly on schemes of new expenditure in Transferred Departments, after obtaining the necessary supplementary grants from the Legislative Council. The year is therefore expected to close without any deficit.'

**Excise**

21. Turning to excise administration, the experiment of closing all arrack shops in toddy drinking areas started from 1st April 1924 in certain taluks of Tanjore, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and Salem districts and the prohibition of sale of liquor to the hill tribes on the Nilgiris except on a medical certificate, have been continued in 1925

The result of the first year's working of these two experiments was not conclusive. With effect from 1st April 1925, the issue strength of arrack was reduced from 35° U.P. to 38° U.P. in nine districts of the Presidency and the limit of private possession of arrack was also reduced from 8 to 6 drams throughout the Presidency. The sale of liquor, opium or intoxicating drugs to women and the admission of children or young persons under 18 years of age and of adult females (except when employed in the shop) within the shop premises have also been prohibited. The duty on bhang was enhanced from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 with effect from 1st April 1925. The limit of private possession was reduced from 5 to 4 tolas in the case of ganja and 20 to 10 tolas in the case of bhang.

There has been a fall in excise revenue under all heads except "Opium" and "Miscellaneous." There has been a fall in the consumption of licit arrack in the first nine months of 1925 and the rentals for the official year 1925-26 also show a decrease which is mainly due to the temperance measures adopted, such as the reduction in the issue strength of arrack and in the limit of private possession and the prohibition of sale of liquor in certain dry areas. Toddy rentals also showed a fall during the year mainly owing to the unfavourable character of the season. The decrease in revenue from foreign liquor and hemp drugs is mainly due to the fall in rentals in the current year. The increase under opium is due to the fact that the sale-proceeds of opium are from 1st April 1925 credited in full to one head "VI. Excise" instead of under two heads "Cost price of opium" (Central

Revenue) and "Gain on sale-proceeds of opium" (Excise Revenue).

**Births and deaths**

22. Compared with 1924 there has been a decrease in the birth-rate and in the death-rate in this Presidency in the first nine months of 1925. The decrease in the birth-rate is probably due to unfavourable economic conditions. The fall in the death-rate is due to fewer deaths from cholera, plague, fevers, dysentery and diarrhœa. There has been a slight rise in the death-rates under small-pox and respiratory diseases. Infantile mortality has been less than in 1924.

**Public health**

23. Owing to propaganda work by the Public Health Department there has been a great improvement in the education of the people on health matters. The Madras Health Council is the central agency for the publication of propaganda and it is assisted by the Government and the Indian Red Cross Society in carrying on its work. But more than half the municipalities in the Presidency have not shown any record of work in this direction.

The National Health and Baby Week was celebrated during the month of January 1925 all over the Presidency. Steps are being taken by the Public Health Department for the celebration of the next National Health and Baby Week in the first week of February 1926.

Towards the close of the year, the Indian Research Fund Association was engaged in research work on the geographical distribution of cholera in this Presidency and the efficacy of vaccines in prevention and the merits of certain drugs in the treatment of cholera.

At present 22 municipalities employ Health Officers as against 12 in 1924.

Medical relief

24. The scheme of offering subsidies to private medical practitioners to induce them to open dispensaries in villages, referred to last year, was brought into effect by local boards in 1925. Government have sanctioned 229 such institutions during the year, but for want of medical practitioners only, 159 have been opened. If this scheme attracts a proper type of practitioner and if the dispensaries are properly run, a great step will have been taken towards bringing proper medical relief to the doors of the people.

Some minor changes took place in the organization of the institutions run by the Medical Department. The Government Leper Hospital at Tondiarpet was transferred to Tirumani near Chingleput and a settlement formed under control of missionaries. The women and children's dispensary at Masulipatam and the local fund dispensary at Panagudi in Tinnevelly were abolished. Two new dispensaries have been opened.

As regards medical education, the Senate of the Madras University sanctioned the affiliation of the Medical School, Vizagapatam, for the 2nd M.B., B.S. course, affiliation for a further period to depend on the carrying out of certain improvements suggested. Third-year classes have been opened in the Medical College, Vizagapatam, and in the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, Madras. Embryology has been added to the curriculum of studies for L.M.P. pupils in medical schools. Practical examinations in histology, chemistry and pharmacy have been started for first- and second-year pupils. Judging from the number of applications received in 1924 and 1925, the number of candidates seeking admission to medical schools as private pupils shows a tendency to decrease. This may be due to the fact that the

chances of employment in Government service have appreciably decreased.

The scheme of employing honorary physicians and surgeons in the large State hospitals in the Presidency, started two years ago, is not yet fully developed. Several of the appointments are still vacant for want of suitable practitioners.

Owing to local bodies taking advantage of their powers of appointing medical men to local fund and municipal institutions, the cadre of sub-assistant surgeons employed by Government is undergoing rapid reduction. A large number of sub-assistant surgeons had to be discharged during the year for want of suitable appointments.

The hookworm campaign mentioned last year continued.

The regular work of the school of Indian medicine mentioned last year commenced on the 6th January 1925. Government have provided 20 free studentships and five scholarships, each of the monthly value of Rs. 20.

**Education** 25. The desire of Government to increase facilities for elementary education and the survey undertaken to that end were referred to last year. The survey has now been completed and the report is under consideration. With a view to accelerate the expansion of elementary education, Government have sanctioned the opening of 1,469 board and 478 aided elementary schools in centres where no schools exist. In connexion with this question of the expansion of education, Government have sanctioned another survey ; they have appointed a special officer to conduct a survey of secondary education, to prepare a programme for its expansion and to examine the present system of grants-in-aid to aided secondary schools. Also, a representative committee on secondary education

consisting of those engaged in teaching and of those who are managing high schools has been appointed to examine the present system of secondary education. The terms of reference of the committee include the question of the line of demarcation to be drawn between elementary and secondary education, the possibility of classifying the curricula of middle and high schools according as a school prepares pupils for practical, for higher or for collegiate education, and the question of specialization in the higher classes and training for practical life.

Mention was made last year of the scheme to improve education amongst the Mappillas of Malabar. Sanction has been given to the appointment of a deputy inspector of schools, permanently, and two supervisors, temporarily, in connexion with this scheme.

The University has recognized the Loyola College at Madras as a constituent college and has granted affiliation in the Honours course to another. Three colleges have been raised to the first grade. Government have sanctioned the institution of special lectures on important subjects of law by leading members of the profession, in the Law College at Madras. Two Government high schools have been handed over to district boards. Government have approved of the adoption of the vernacular as the medium of instruction in some non-language subjects in high schools.

As has been mentioned in other parts of this summary, the Kistna district has been bifurcated. This has affected the Educational as well as other departments. An additional District Educational Officer with the necessary office establishment has been appointed temporarily.

# PART II

# THE REPORT

## CHAPTER I

## PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

*PHYSICAL*

### PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

*POLITICAL*

### HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

### FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

## CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

## SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

## SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

## CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

## DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

## CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1924-25)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Sir Freeman Freeman-Thomas, Baron (since created Viscount) Willingdon of Ratton, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., resigned the office of Governor of Fort St. George on the afternoon of the 12th April 1924, and, in virtue of the provisions of section 91 of the Government of India Act, the office of Governor

devolved on the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., I.C.S. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble George Joachim Goschen, Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., assumed charge of the office of the Governor of Fort St. George on the 14th April 1924 and continued in office throughout the year. The Hon'ble Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., was appointed to be a temporary Member of Council for one day on the 13th April 1924 in the vacancy caused by the devolution of the office of Governor on the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter. The Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter resigned the office of Member of Council on the afternoon of the 26th April 1924, and the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., was appointed temporary Member of Council. The latter was subsequently appointed permanent Member of Council by Royal Warrant. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Habib-ullah Sahib Bahadur, K.C.I.E., having been appointed Member of the Governor-General's Executive Council, resigned the office of Member of Council on the afternoon of the 27th December 1924 and the Hon'ble Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks was appointed temporary Member of Council in his place. The Hon'ble Mr. Marjoribanks was subsequently appointed permanent Member of Council by Royal Warrant. The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., resigned his Membership of Council on the afternoon of the 30th March 1925, and the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur was appointed Member of Council by Royal Warrant, in succession. There was no change in the Ministry during the year.

During the year there were three changes in the Vice-Presidentship of the Executive Council. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur was appointed Vice-President in succession to the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp in succession to the Hon'ble Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah, and the Hon'ble Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., in succession to the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp.

## His Excellency the Governor's Tours

Madras

Coimbatore

Karūr (Trichinopoly)

Ceded Districts

10. On the 18th June 1924, His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Viscount Goschen, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., Governor of Madras, paid a visit to Madras from Ootacamund specially to open the new Muslim High School. On return he halted at Coimbatore on the 19th idem to visit the Agricultural College, where he inspected the cattle farm, yard and dairy, sugarcane, paddy and cotton breeding stations and the central farm wet lands. The next day His Excellency proceeded from Tiruppūr to Karūr, where he opened the bridge over the Amarāvati which has been named the "Desikachari Bridge" and motored back to Ootacamund from Karūr.

On the 26th June 1924, His Excellency, accompanied by Viscountess Goschen, left Ootacamund on a tour in the Ceded Districts with a view to acquaint himself with the conditions of the season prevailing at the time in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool. At Anantapur His Excellency received deputations from the Anantapur Municipal Council, the Anantapur District Board and the Gooty Famine Committee. From Anantapur he proceeded to Gooty and inspected the famine relief camp at Pātakottacheruvu. At Bellary His Excellency received a deputation from the principal inhabitants of the district and discussed with them famine and kindred matters. A visit was paid to the relief camp at Kolar, nine miles from Bellary town. From Bellary His Excellency proceeded to Hospet, whence the famous Hampi ruins and the manganese mines at Ramandrug were visited. While at Kurnool, where the agricultural season was fair throughout the district except for a small corner of the Pattikonda taluk, His Excellency had an opportunity of discussing the subject with the ryots of the locality. He also received a deputation from the Anjuman-e-Mufid-el-Muslameen of Kurnool. From Kurnool His Excellency motored to Panyam visiting the Sugali and Chenchu schools en route and returned to Ootacamund on the 4th July.

On the 29th July 1924, His Excellency, accompanied by Viscountess Goschen, motored from Ootacamund to Satyamangalam in the Coimbatore district to see the damage caused there by the floods. Coimbatore

His Excellency made a special journey to Madras on the 4th August to preside at a public meeting convened by the Sheriff of Madras for the purpose of concerting measures to afford relief to the sufferers in the floods which caused much distress in some districts of South India. Madras

On the 16th August 1924, His Excellency again left Ootacamund for Madras to open the session of the Legislative Council. He halted for a few hours at Coimbatore, where he received a deputation on behalf of the Malabar tenants. While at Madras, His Excellency received addresses of welcome from several public bodies, distributed King's police medals to members of the police force at a parade, and presided at the Convocation of the Madras University. His Excellency returned to Ootacamund on the 27th August after spending two days at Bangalore where he attended a ceremonial parade of troops. Madras

On the 31st August 1924, His Excellency left Ootacamund on a tour in the Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts with the object of acquainting himself with the conditions prevalent there consequent on the damage and suffering caused by the floods and seeing for himself some of the flood-affected areas. His Excellency inspected the breaches near Mekkudi and also the breach of the pipe line which cut off the water-supply to Trichinopoly town. The residents and landholders of some of the villages affected and the Trichinopoly District Landholders' Association made representations to His Excellency for help towards the alleviation of distress and general restoration and reconstruction. His Excellency also saw the damage done to the Cauvery and Coleroon bridges. In the Tanjore district His Excellency inspected the breach areas in Marur, the Lower Anicut, Agara Elattūr and Vadarangam, and received several representations from the landholders concerned. His Excellency returned to Ootacamund on the 4th September. Trichinopoly and Tanjore

Coimbatore and Malabar

Before going to the Malabar district in October His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the municipal waterworks and opened the Government Medical School at Coimbatore on the 10th, after which he spent a few days as the guest of the Raja of Kollengode in the Nelliampatti Hills. In the Malabar district His Excellency with Viscountess Goschen halted at Kollengode, Palghat, Cannanore, Tellicherry and Calicut and received addresses from local bodies and deputations from five local associations. His Excellency motored from Shōranūr to Pulamanthole to open the bridge at the latter place, and from Feroke to Manjeri, Malappuram, Nilambūr, and the Pullangode rubber estate. He also opened the "Giffard" ward and operation theatre attached to Dr. Krishnan's hospital at Palghat and visited the agricultural farm at Taliparamba. His Excellency reached Madras on the 25th October.

Delhi

On the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy His Excellency visited Delhi in November 1924 and returned to Madras on the 10th.

Ootacamund

His Excellency spent a few days about the last week in December in Ootacamund.

Vizagapatam and Ganjām

On his next tour, which commenced on the 15th January 1925 and ended on the 24th, His Excellency, accompanied by Viscountess Goschen, visited the Ganjām district. En route he halted at Vizagapatam to lay the foundation stone of the pathological block of the Medical College Rambha, Chatrapūr, Gopālpūr, Berhampur, Aska, Russellkonda, Ichchhāpuram and Chicacole were visited. His Excellency received addresses from local bodies, and deputations from five associations, opened the centenary building of the Baptist Mission Hospital and the new building for the Oriya Club at Berhampur, and presented the sanad conferring the title of "Raja" on the Zamindar of Mandasā.

Hosūr (Salem

His Excellency visited Hosūr on the 9th February for the purpose of inspecting the new cattle farm which had been recently established on the site of the Army Remount Depot.

Rāmnād

The last tour was to the Rāmnād district. Leaving Madras on the 17th February, His

Excellency visited Kanadukattan, where he opened the Lady Pentland Women and Children's Hospital and S. A. Annamalai Chettiyar's hospital: Pallatur, where he laid the foundation stone of Arunachalam Chettiyar's school ; and Devakottai, where he laid the stone for the service reservoir of the water-works. Sivaganga was also visited, where His Excellency presented the sanad of the title of "Raja" to the Zamindar of Sivaganga. His Excellency returned to Madras on the 21st February.

## CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1334—1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1334 ; Statistical Abstract for British India ; Prices and Wages in India*]

**General**

11. There were no tracts which require special notice on the ground of any permanent lowering in the standard of agricultural prosperity.

Stocks and prices of food-grains

Stocks of grain were generally sufficient, the deficit in the districts affected by scarcity having been made up by imports from outside. The prices of the principal food-grains were at first higher than in the previous fasli in most districts owing to the poor harvests in that fasli and the heavy and destructive floods in July 1924. But, except in Tanjore, the prices fell steadily after October in the case of dry grains and after December in the case of rice owing to the fair harvests of the early season crops. Prices at the end of the fasli were appreciably lower than in the previous fasli for dry grains in Vizagapatam and the Deccan, but they were higher for rice and ragi in most districts, cholam in the Circars, and dry grains in Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly, though the difference was less marked than at the beginning of the fasli, except in Tanjore.

Prices of articles of import and export

Prices of articles of import declined except in the case of kerosene oil and betel-nuts, while prices of articles of export showed an advance except in the case of oil-cake, copra, gingelly, unrefined

sugar, and cotton piece-goods. The general rise in the price of sugar noticed in the last two years was not maintained and prices fell steadily owing to the large crop of Java sugar, the cessation of the demand for the Java crop in Europe and America as a result of the record Cuban crop and the relatively low prices of Cuban sugar, and the rapid recovery of the beet-sugar industry in Europe and America. Local prices of white Java sugar fell steadily by 30 per cent. The price of jaggery did not fall to a corresponding extent. There was a continued decline in the prices of American cotton from August 1924 owing to the large crop in America, but the prices of Madras cottons, especially the Tinnevellies, were not affected to a corresponding extent. The general price of coffee increased owing to the shortage of supplies, especially of Brazilian coffee, and to the steadily increasing consumption of coffee in all countries. The local price of coffee increased in sympathy. The price of tea also increased owing to increased world consumption. The local price of rubber rose on account of restricted production and in sympathy with the higher prices in London due to small stocks and a greater demand for rubber articles.

Wages

Except in the tracts where scarcity prevailed, wages continued high and employment was generally available.

Condition of the ryot

The year was generally more prosperous than the previous year. One sign of such prosperity was a large increase in the imports of raw silk and the finer counts of yarn. The favourable season aided progress in the demonstration of agricultural improvements, except in parts of Trichinopoly, Tanjore, and the West Coast affected by the July floods. The ryot in the Circars had a very good season and recovered from the effects of the bad seasons in the last two years. The Gudem taluk of the Vizagapatam district was recovering from the effects of the fituri. In spite of the reduced yield of the late crops of cholam and cotton, the Deccan ryot, who had had a series of bad seasons, replenished partially his stores of food-grains and fodder and realized money by the sale of groundnut

and cotton which fetched good prices. The Nellore ryot had a prosperous season and recovered from the effects of the previous year. The condition of the ryot was not satisfactory in the Central districts (except Chittoor), though it was better than in the previous year in North Arcot, Salem, and Coimbatore. The condition of the ryot in Tanjore was unsatisfactory, as the year was the culmination of a series of bad years. The rice mill industry in this district languished owing to the slackening of the demand for rice from Ceylon. The condition of the ryot was satisfactory in the Periyār area, but continued to be unsatisfactory in the non-Periyār area (Madura district). The position of the ryot in Malabar was unsatisfactory owing to the floods in the previous fasli and the present fasli, the reduced yields of paddy, coconut, and pepper and the poor catch of fish, but the situation was a little improved by the increased prices obtained by him for coconut, arecanut, and ginger. The condition of the Badaga ryot in the Nilgiris was not good owing to the low yield and price of potatoes.

The insufficiency and high cost of manures continues to be a serious handicap to the increased yield of crops. However, in the year under review, there was a decrease in the export, to other countries, of indigenous manures, such as fish, bones and oil-cake.

## Political Pensions (1924-25)

12. The political pensions in force on 1st April 1924 amounted to Rs. 2,53,010-6-0 and were distributed among 445 pensioners. During the year under report, pensions amounting to Rs. 2,528-10-0 were newly sanctioned and pensions amounting to Rs. 6,547-10-0 lapsed. Eleven pensioners died during the year, the pensions of four persons were commuted, two pensions were transferred to other provinces, and one pension was reduced. Seven pensioners were newly added to the list. The

pensions in force on 1st April 1925 amounted to Rs. 2,48,991–6–0 and were distributed amongst 435 pensioners. The payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore families aggregated to Rs. 1,88,106–2–5 and Rs. 29,002–12–0, respectively, including Rs. 4,219 and Rs. 782, respectively, on account of commutation.

# CHAPTER II

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

### SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1333; Statistical Abstract for British India—Financial Statistics—Land Revenue*]

**Sources of land revenue**

13. The land revenue of the Presidency is derived from the undermentioned sources :—

(*a*) peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates,

(*b*) shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages,

(*c*) assessment including water-rate on lands held under the ryotwari system,

(*d*) miscellaneous revenue, and

(*e*) proprietary estates village service.

**Peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates**

The total amount of peshkash payable during the fasli was Rs. 50,12,575 against Rs. 49,79,964 in the preceding fasli.

**Quit-rent**

The quit-rent payable on villages held on shrotriyam or favourable tenure was Rs. 7,57,078 against Rs. 7,52,774 in the preceding fasli.

**Ryotwari holdings**

The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·44 million acres which exceeded the extent of the previous year (as now revised) by 118,945 acres. The increase was contributed by all the districts except the Nilgiris. The increase was marked in Anantapur (13,642 acres) and in North Arcot (12,683 acres).

**Assessment**

The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 557·60 lakhs against Rs. 543·62 lakhs in the previous year (as now revised) showing an increase

of Rs. 13,97,013 which was shared by all the districts except the Nilgiris. The marked increase in Tanjore (Rs. 10,34,466) was due to the introduction of the resettlement rates.

Cultivation

The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings during the year was 19·28 million acres as compared with 19·82 million acres in the previous fasli. The area under dry, 14,543,706 acres, showed a decrease of 389,554 acres and that under wet, 4,740,094 acres, a decrease of 142,364 acres. The decrease under dry was marked in Coimbatore, and that under wet in North Arcot. Including the area under "Miscellaneous cultivation" the total area cultivated was 20·22 million acres against 20·77 million acres in the previous year.

Water-rate and second-crop charge

The revenue derived from water-rate and charge for second crop amounted to Rs. 28·64 lakhs against Rs. 34·49 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease was Rs. 5,84,949 and occurred in all the districts except Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, Kistna and Guntūr and it was particularly large in North Arcot.

Remissions

As compared with the previous year, there were increases under "Season remissions" and "Fixed remissions" (i.e., abatement of the demand granted for reasons unconnected with the season) and a decrease under "Beriz deductions" (i.e., deductions made from village collections in favour of inamdars and religious institutions). The net increase under all the three heads amounted to Rs. 18,03,024. The total amount remitted was Rs. 36,91,518, made up as follows :—

| | Fasli 1333. | Fasli 1332. |
|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Season remissions ... ... | 24,01,799 | 8,20,764 |
| Fixed remissions ... ... | 3,81,848 | 1,53,681 |
| Beriz deductions ... ... ... | 9,01,871 | 9,14,046 |
| | 36,91,518 | 18,88,494 |

Miscellaneous revenue

Miscellaneous revenue amounted to Rs. 105·69 lakhs against 107·96 lakhs in the previous year—a net decrease of Rs. 2,27,703.

The work of reclassification of land registered as poramboke was reported to be complete or nearly complete in all districts except Ganjām, Trichinopoly and the Nilgiris, where it was still in progress at the end of the year. The charges for occupation of poramboke land in the year were Rs. 0·79 lakh less than in the previous year.

The revenue derived from the sale of land was Rs. 6·48 lakhs, or Rs. 1·90 lakhs less than in the previous year.

**Total current land revenue demand**

14. The current demands under the several heads are compared below with the figures for the previous year:—

| | Fasli 1332. | Fasli 1333. |
|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Peshkash on permanently settled estates... | 49,90,609 | 50,12,575 |
| Shrotriyam jodi ... ... ... ... | 7,52,788 | 7,57,078 |
| Ryotwari and miscellaneous ... ... | 6,67,16,728 | 6,55,00,795 |
| Cesses on permanently settled estates ... | 19,69,823 | 21,24,760 |
| Cesses on whole-inam villages ... ... | 5,16,756 | 5,39,766 |
| Cesses on ryotwari and miscellaneous | 62,28,191 | 65,22,435 |

**Collections**

15. The current demand under Land Revenue and Cesses during the fasli was Rs. 8,10,87,028.* A sum of Rs. 7,79,38,821 or 96·1 per cent was collected within the fasli and Rs. 1,417 written off the accounts. The balance outstanding at the close of the fasli including both "arrears" and "current" was Rs. 33,48,671.

**Charges**

16. The charges of district administration including the salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors but excluding those of village establishments were Rs. 1,05,71,000, or 13·16 per cent of the land revenue and cesses realized. The ratio was 13·23 per cent in the preceding fasli. The village service charges (including those of proprietary estates) during the fasli were Rs. 1,06,95,446. Including this sum, the total charges were Rs. 2,12,69,446 or 26·46 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses against 27·97 per cent in the previous fasli. The fall appears to be

* This figure includes demand under "Proprietary estates village service" amounting to Rs. 6,29,619.

chiefly due to the reduction of village establishment. It must, however, be remembered that the establishment charged to land revenue does various duties of which the administration of the land is only one. The result is that the actual cost of the collection of land revenue cannot be calculated with any exactitude : but it is certainly far less than the charges debited to this head.

**Coercive processes**

17. The total number of coercive processes issued for the realization of Government dues was 1,187,542. This is an increase of 13·99 per cent over the number in the previous fasli, which in its turn showed an increase of 22·87 per cent over the number in fasli 1331. There was a marked increase in the number of demand notices issued in the Tanjore district. This was due to the no-tax campaign. There was also a large number of demand notices issued in the North Arcot district due to the failure of the monsoons.

Distraint

Again, there was a considerable increase in the number of attachment or distraint notices issued in the Tanjore district, also due to the no-tax campaign. As compared with the previous fasli, there was a decrease in the percentage borne by the number of distraints and attachments to that of demand notices. The percentage in the fasli was 11·48.

Attachment

Out of 113,108 defaulters whose property was attached, only 27·81 per cent paid the arrears before the sale notices were issued. The percentage was 54·31 in fasli 1332. The explanation for the fall appears to be the no-tax campaign in Tanjore, where only 1·72 per cent of the defaulters paid up the arrears, and scarcity of money in South Arcot, where only 7 per cent paid up the arrears before sale.

Sales

The number of defaulters whose property was sold was greater than in fasli 1332. The increase in the sales of personal property is noticeable in Tanjore, while in South Arcot there was a large number of sales of immovable property. The percentage of actual sales to sale notices was 8·87 against 12·87 in fasli 1332.

Immovable property of the estimated value of Rs. 2,24,329 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 1,50,490; the amount realized was Rs. 1,30,907. The extent of land sold during the year was 16,508 acres classed as "dry" and 1,914 acres classed as "wet." The extent of land sold was considerable in South Arcot and Madura. Value and extent of land sold

The total area of land bought in by Government for want of bidders was 6,389 acres of dry and 766 acres of wet land. Bought-in land

The total number of processes served was 974,118, or 140,795 more than in fasli 1332. The number of processes served by special agency (87,181) was greater than in the previous fasli (53,040). Process service establishment

18. Transfers of revenue registration fell under the following two main heads:— Transfers of registration

(1) applications and notices received from Sub-Registrars;

(2) applications and intimations received from parties, village officers and others.

Under the first head, 333,524 applications were received as against 316,706 in the previous fasli, the increase being 5·31 per cent. Under the second head, the number received was 94,770 as against 94,278 in the previous fasli, the increase being ·52 per cent. The total number of applications to be dealt with including the number pending disposal at the beginning of the fasli was 547,906. Of these, 435,143 were disposed of during the fasli. Of the total number of applications disposed of, 8·55 per cent were rejected.

19. The advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 17·24 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to Rs. 18·38 lakhs, a total of 35·62 lakhs against 14·81 lakhs in fasli 1332. The increase was chiefly due to a cyclone in some districts, floods in some districts and to distress and a bad season in others. Loans and advances

The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts, including the balance remaining unpaid out of

sums which fell due in the previous year, was Rs. 23,73,977, of which 19·4 per cent (Rs. 4,59,478) was collected without resort to coercion and a further 42·3 per cent (Rs. 10,04,918) after issue of demand notices. A sum of Rs. 52,065 was collected after attachment but before sale, while the amount realized by the sale of movable property was Rs. 3,485 and by the sale of immovable property Rs. 85,201. A sum of Rs. 299 was written off as irrecoverable. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 7,68,531.

## SURVEYS (1924-25)

*[Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1924-25; G.O. No. 1688, Revenue, dated 30th October 1925]*

**Parties**

20. At the beginning of the year, there were five permanent and three temporary survey parties at work, but as one temporary party was abolished with effect from 1st May 1924, there were only seven parties at work during the greater part of the year. Of these, four were employed on resurveys of ryotwari tracts prior to re-settlement in the districts of Anantapur, Malabar and South Kanara; two, while engaged on similar operations in the Kistna district, did also the cadastral survey of the non-Government villages irrigated by canals in the taluks under resurvey in the same district. The remaining party completed the survey in the Sivaganga Zamindari in the Rāmnād district and also carried out the supplemental survey of the Kodaikānal taluk of the Madura district.

**Operations**

Ryotwari areas

21. The outturn forecasted for the year was 2,809 square miles. The extent actually surveyed was 2,785 square miles. In addition, 46·9 square miles of waste and disafforested lands, resumed inams, etc., and 33·2 square miles of land in non-Government villages in which Government were interested were surveyed during the year.

The total outturn under estate surveys was 350 square miles against a forecast of 322 square miles. The increase was due to the area to be dealt with in the Sivaganga Zamindari being actually greater than the estimate. Field work in the Zamindari was completed and the work of preparing maps was in progress. Estates

The main items of town survey which were carried out during the year were: (1) Supplemental survey of Trichinopoly town and (2) Resurvey of four blocks in the Madura town, the survey of which was completed during the previous year. Urban surveys

The total area surveyed under all the items during the year was 3,215 square miles against 2,694 square miles during the previous year. Total area surveyed

22. The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 16,94,456 against Rs. 20,72,587 in the previous year. **Finance**

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## SETTLEMENTS (1924-25)

[*Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1924-25; G.O. No. 1688, Revenue, dated 30th October 1925*]

23. There were four settlement parties at work during the year under report—Party No. I in the Tanjore district, Party No. II in the South Arcot, North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore, Kistna and Gōdāvari districts, Party No III in Bellary and Anantapur districts and Party No. IV in the Trichinopoly, Madura, Rāmnād and Tinnevelly districts. As the resettlement work in South Arcot was almost completed, Party No. II was entrusted with the resettlement of Gōdāvari and Kistna and the headquarters of the Party were shifted from Cuddalore to Masulipatam. The Collector of the Nilgiris was in charge of the work connected with the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads. **Parties**

24. Some details of the settlement operations of the year are given below. **Operations**

Ganjām

In Ganjām district, the settlement of the land alienated by the Khonds and other hillmen in the Goomsūr-Udoyogiri taluk was completed during the year.

East Gōdāvari

In East Gōdāvari, the revision of adangals in the Razole taluk was completed under the supervision of a Special Deputy Collector and fair accounts based on the resurvey were handed over to the Revenue Department before the arrival of the Settlement Party in the district.

West Gōdāvari and Kistna

In West Gōdāvari and Kistna districts, the revision of adangals was completed in the Divi, Narasapur and Tanuku taluks and field inspection preliminary to resettlement was in progress in the last two taluks as well as in Bandar and Bhīmavaram. The survey of mamul wet and tirvajasti land and of other land in which Government have interest was completed in the 61 non-Government villages of the Divi taluk. Final check was carried out for 51 villages and the records of 40 villages were handed over to the Survey Department for supplemental survey.

Bellary and Anantapur

In Bellary and Anantapur districts, revision of adangals was started in the taluks of Penukonda, Madakasīra and Dharmavaram, completed in Kalyāndrug and was in progress in Anantapur and Hindupur. The survey of subdivisions in the red soil taluks of the Bellary district was carried out. The introduction of the new rates of assessment in the red soil taluks was in progress but Government have ordered that the increase in assessment should not become effective till fasli 1335. The diglot registers and descriptive memoirs of 536 villages of the black soil taluks of Bellary and Anantapur were prepared and sent to the Press. A report on the introduction of resettlement in the black soil taluks of Bellary and Anantapur was submitted. The inquiries necessary for the preparation of a resettlement scheme report for the red soil taluks of the Anantapur district were almost completed. The orders of Government on the proposals for the revision of ground-rent in the black soil taluks of Bellary were received during the year and revised rates

were introduced in all cases except in the town of Bellary.

In North Arcot, the diglot register of the Tiruvannāmalai municipality was despatched to the Press. The issue of addenda slips to the diglot registers consequent on the reclassification of lands registered as grazing ground poramboke was completed. North Arcot

In Chingleput, the diglot register of the resumed inam village of Erivakkam in the Conjeeveram taluk was prepared and despatched to the Press. Chingleput

In South Arcot, the diglot registers of 257 villages were despatched to the Press. The work was thus completed with the exception of one village. The errata lists for the fair adangals and diglot registers consequent on the survey and classification of the disafforested blocks in certain taluks were issued for the remaining 29 villages during the year. The survey of land in which Government have interest was completed in respect of 53 non-Government villages and final check of the survey records in respect of 49 villages. South Arcot

In Tanjore district, fair accounts for the remaining eleven villages of the Kumbakōnam taluk were despatched to the Revenue Department during the year. Consequent on the orders of Government that land should be newly registered as double crop only on the application of the pattadars and that the double-crop area already registered at the resettlement should be revised in accordance with those orders, necessary corrections were made in the fair accounts of 376 villages. Government subsequently issued orders limiting to $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent the enhancement of the rates of assessment made at resettlements on the basis of a rise in prices only and directed that these orders should have restrospective effect in the Tanjore district. This necessitated the correction of the accounts of 1,203 villages. The diglot registers of 766 villages were despatched to the Press. The registers of 98 villages which had already been sent to the Press and of 428 villages which were ready for despatch were corrected with reference to the Government Orders mentioned above. Orders were passed by Government on the proposals for the revision of Tanjore

ground-rents in the district and the introduction of the revised rates had been almost completed at the end of the year.

Trichinopoly

In Trichinopoly, the revision of adangals was completed in all the taluks of the district due for resettlement. The orders of Government on the scheme report for the resettlement of the district were received in January 1925. Rough pattas were issued during the year for 240 villages and objections thereto were heard for 160 villages. The fair accounts of nine villages were despatched to the Revenue Department.

The scheme report for the resettlement of the three Pachamalai Kombai villages in the Musiri taluk was submitted. The survey of land in which Government have interest in the non-Government villages of the district was in progress, and final check was completed for 76 villages.

Madura

In the Madura district, a scheme report for resettlement of the Kodaikānal taluk was submitted.

Rāmnād

In Rāmnād, the preparation of a scheme report for the settlement of the resumed inam villages of Kunnankulam and Ilaiyathinvayal was in progress.

Coimbatore

In Coimbatore, diglot registers for the remaining six villages included in the Coimbatore municipality were prepared and despatched to the Press.

Tinnevelly

In Tinnevelly, rough pattas were issued and objections thereto heard in respect of 17 villages included in the Tinnevelly, Palamcottah and Tuticorin municipalities. Fair accounts were prepared for 16 villages.

The Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads

A scheme report for the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads was submitted and was under the consideration of the Board of Revenue at the end of the year.

**Registers**

25. The resettlement registers of 1,567 villages were sent to the Press from the offices of the various Parties and those of 945 villages were printed and despatched to the Collectors.

Work under Estates Land Act

26. In addition to the ordinary settlement work, as detailed above, records of right, draft rent rolls and settlement of rents were compiled and published in certain villages of various estates.

Finance

27. The total expenditure during the year including the cost of printing and binding resettlement registers amounted to Rs. 10,70,497. The expenditure in the previous year was Rs. 11,86,577 as finally adjusted.

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## LAND RECORDS (1924-25)

[*Report on the administration of the Land Records Department for the year 1924-25 ; G.O. No. 1688, Revenue, dated 30th October 1925*]

Training

28. For the purpose of training revenue subordinates in the maintenance of land records, survey schools were held in sixteen districts by Tahsildars specially appointed for the purpose. 380 persons received instruction. Competent Revenue Inspectors were deputed to train karnams, and schools were held in all the districts except Rāmnād, Malabar and the Nilgiris.

Maintenance

29. Regular maintenance of land records was in progress throughout the Presidency except in parts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. The Tanjore district had recently been resettled and regular maintenance was not carried out in all parts of the district pending completion of the operations preliminary to maintenance. The survey records in the excepted tracts in the Trichinopoly district had not been received by the Revenue Department as the introduction of resettlement was in progress. In certain taluks of the West Gōdāvari, Kistna, Malabar and East Gōdāvari districts which were being or had been reserved for resurvey, maintenance was confined to the measurement of current subdivisions and replacement of stones on poramboke boundaries.

Sub-divisions

The total number of subdivisions sanctioned during the year was 26 per cent less than the number sanctioned in the previous year. The decrease was probably due to the introduction of the system of levying subdivision fees in the beginning of 1924. It is too early to say whether the decrease could be solely attributed to that cause. There was a fall in the arrears in mapping, probably due to the decrease in the number of subdivisions sanctioned.

Survey marks

In many districts maintenance of stones was better than in the previous year. The total number of stones requiring attention increased by one per cent and the outturn realized during the year both by the staff and the ryots increased by 14 per cent. There was a decrease of 8 per cent in the arrears at the end of the year.

The charges incidental to the renewal and repair of survey marks were not collected from the ryots during the year as rules under the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, VIII of 1923, had not been finally issued.

**Great trigonometrical stations**

30. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory, and necessary action was taken in respect of such as were in need of repairs.

It was remarked last year, and the same remark applies to the year under report, that, in the absence of any special agency for supervision, the maintenance of land records was deteriorating. Though, properly speaking, it is outside the scope of this report, it may be remarked that in the present year Government have approved of the appointment of a special Tahsildar in each district to supervise this work.

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## Waste Lands

(Fasli 1334—1st July 1924 to 30th June 1925)

[*Season and Crop Report for the agricultural year 1924-25*]

31. The total area of the Presidency for which details were available was 90·505 million acres of which a net extent of 33·338 millions acres was

under cultivation as against 32·287* million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest decreased from 13·158 million acres to 13·118 million acres, while 21·515 million acres (or 0·115 million acres more than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 10·068 million acres were fallow and 12·466 million acres formed cultivable waste other than fallow as against 11·088 million acres and 12·419 million acres, respectively, in the previous fasli.

## GOVERNMENT ESTATES

32. There is nothing to record under this head for this Presidency.

## WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1333 (1923-24)*]

**Estates under management**

33. Of the twenty estates that were under the Court's superintendence at the end of fasli 1332, the Ūrkkādu and Chundi estates were handed over to their proprietors on their attaining majority on the 13th August 1923 and 1st February 1924, respectively. Thus the number of estates under the Court's management at the end of fasli 1333, including Ūttumalai which still continued under formal superintendence, was 18. The South Vallūru (Part I) estate in the Kistna district was taken under superintendence in July 1924 in consequence of the minority of its proprietor.

Estates handed over

The Ūrkkādu estate was under the Court's management for over sixteen years. During this period the rent in kind was commuted into cash rent and the land revenue demand of the estate rose from Rs. 79,414 in fasli 1317 to Rs. 90,649 in fasli 1333. Debts amounting to Rs. 86,167 in the Ayan

* This and subsequent figures for the previous year do not tally with last year's report. The figures in this report are revised figures.

section and Rs. 3,520 in the Endowment section were recovered, and debts to the extent of Rs. 3,77,101 in the Ayan section and Rs. 6,937 in the Endowment section were paid off, and the estate was handed over free from debt. A sum of Rs. 1,36,147 was spent on maramat works in the Ayan and the Endowment sections—Rs. 28,171 in the improvement of irrigation works and the balance on buildings and similar works. The construction of a palace for the proprietor was in progress at the time of rendition and it was expected to be completed in a year. There was no cash balance when the Court assumed management. On the day of rendition a sum of Rs. 28,078 was handed over to the proprietor, besides the sum of Rs. 338-12-0 at the credit of the estate in the treasury, and Government promissory notes of the face value of Rs. 84,900 in the Ayan and Rs. 12,300 in the Endowment sections. The ward underwent training in the details of estate administration under the estate manager prior to taking over charge. With the introduction of a fair rate of money rent, there was a marked improvement in the condition of the tenants.

The Chundi estate was under the Court's management for nearly twenty years. During this period the revenue of the estate rose from Rs. 30,314 to Rs. 50,093. The estate was surveyed and the forests of the estate were worked according to rules sanctioned by Government under section 26 of the Madras Forest Act. Debts amounting to Rs. 2,69,236 due by the estate were paid off during the period, and a sum of Rs. 31,027 was spent on irrigation works and Rs. 3,842 on repairs to buildings. The ward underwent practical training in the details of administration. Excluding the amount required for post-rendition charges, a cash balance of Rs. 3,957 was handed over to the proprietor on the date of rendition and the estate was free from debt.

**Finance**

Demand, collection and balance

34. The gross current demand of all the estates amounted to Rs. 24·20 lakhs and the net demand to Rs. 23·45 lakhs, remissions being Rs. 0·75 lakh. Among the seventeen estates which were under management during both the faslis 1332 and 1333

and for which figures were available for comparison, there was a net decrease of Rs. 5·29 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1333, which was the result of decreases (Rs. 5·34 lakhs) in twelve estates and increases (Rs. 0·05 lakh) in five others. Sivaganga was responsible for the bulk of the decrease (Rs. 4·22 lakhs) which was due to the unfavourable season. Out of the total current demand of Rs. 23·45 lakhs, sums of Rs. 16·07 lakhs were collected and a sum of Rs. 0·18 lakh was written off during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 7·20 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections and remissions and also amounts which Collectors and Estate Collectors recommended for remission after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on 1st October 1924 amounted to Rs. 6·58 lakhs, or 28·0 per cent of the demand. The balance was nil only in the Māmbārai estate. It was less than 5 per cent in five estates, while in six other estates it exceeded 25 per cent. The arrear demand at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 13·23 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 7·57 lakhs was outstanding at its close. There were no arrears outstanding in Mētrātti, Kūdapalli and Māmbārai. The balances were below Rs. 1,000 in four estates, below Rs. 5,000 in two, and below Rs. 10,000 in two others. The balances exceeded Rs. 10,000 in the remaining six estates. The aggregate revised cash balance at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 4·98 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the fasli amounted to Rs. 38·47 lakhs. The total assets in cash of the fasli were thus Rs. 43·45 lakhs. Deducting from this the total expenditure aggregating Rs. 39·97 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs 3·48 lakhs. Including Government promissory notes and other securities of the aggregate face value of Rs. 1·61 lakhs held on behalf of some of the estates and the estimated value of grain on hand at the end of the fasli, viz., Rs. 1·58 lakhs, the closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs. 6·67 lakhs.

Surplus balances

The estates of Bodokhemidi and Sivaganga had surplus balances amounting to Rs. 1·09 lakhs and Rs. 2·44 lakhs, respectively. The bulk of the balance in Bodokhemidi was subsequently drawn for

the marriage expenses of the ward's elder sister. A considerable portion of the surplus in Sivaganga was necessary to carry on the administration of the estate till kists began to come in. Funds were necessary also to carry on maramat works and continue the survey operations and the commutation scheme.

Agricultural improvements

The two agricultural farms attached to the Dēvaswam section of the Zamorin's estate continued to work during the year. The Kalathikannu farm in Calicut was run chiefly for the reclamation of waste lands. Paddy cultivation on the farm was a failure. More bunds were therefore raised and coconut planting was carried on on a larger scale, but these plants as well as other plants were completely destroyed in the heavy floods of July 1923. The Pokkannu farm at Ottapālam on the other hand continued to serve as an object lesson to the adjoining tenants in seed selection, in economical planting, in the rotation of dry crops, in the raising of commercially profitable crops like sugarcane and in garden planting. In spite of the vicissitudes of the season, the operations on this farm were more encouraging in their results than in the other farm. The accounts from April 1923 to March 1924 showed a slight increase in the net income over that of the previous year. The combined agricultural and dairy farm attached to the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam worked with more satisfactory results than in the previous year. More attention was devoted to actual farming and less to reclamation of waste lands. Cattle and leaf manure and ashes were the principal manures used in the farm, and the arecanut trees, which were treated with fish manure, improved in condition and yielded more nuts. The dairy cattle were in excellent condition during the year.

Establishment charges

The average percentage of establishment charges and Government commission to normal receipts was 25·7 as against 21·8 in fasli 1332. The large percentage in Bodokhemidi (41·1) was mainly due to the fall in the receipts consequent on the bad season and the payment of the arrear establishment charges of fasli 1332. In Mādugula the percentage (35·6) was lower than in fasli 1332

(40·4). In Bāgalūr and Shūlagiri the high percentages (27 and 24) were due partly to the fall in the receipts and partly to the entertainment of temporary establishments. In spite of drastic retrenchments in establishment charges, the percentage (27·6) went up in Sivaganga on account of the poor receipts in the fasli.

**Works**

35. The Court continued to pay special attention to this branch of administration. The programmes in Mādugula, Ārni, Rāmapatnam, Kadavūr and Talaivankōttai were followed as far as possible. In Sivaganga the sanctioned programme had to be curtailed for want of funds and the expenditure limited to closing breaches and other urgent repairs. Including the trust institutions, the total maramat allotment in all the estates was Rs. 7·08 lakhs. The value of work done and the work paid for amounted to Rs. 6·83 lakhs and Rs. 6·56 lakhs, or 96·5 and 92·7 per cent, respectively, of the allotment. The maramat expenditure (Rs. 6·56 lakhs) was 21·8 per cent of the total ordinary charges (Rs. 30·12 lakhs) including those of the trust institutions.

**Debts**

**Debts due to the estates**

36. The debts due to the several estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 8·88 lakhs. Including the loans newly granted (Rs. 0·09 lakh), debts newly brought to account (Rs. 0·75 lakh) and the interest and costs which accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·39 lakh), the aggregate amount due was Rs. 10·11 lakhs. Of this amount, a sum of Rs. 2·14 lakhs was collected and Rs. 0·06 lakh written off in the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 7·91 lakhs at its end. The outstanding balance was large in Bodokhemidi (Rs. 0·88 lakh), Jeypore Kumārikā's estate (Rs. 6·25 lakhs) and Sivaganga (Rs. 0·56 lakh). The amount due to the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate was made up of Rs. 1 lakh due by the ward's brother, the Maharaja, which was subsequently recovered, and Rs. 5·25 lakhs due by the Zamindar of Lakshmipuram and Pedda Buddidi and covered by civil court's decree.

**Debts due by the estates**

The liabilities of the estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 11·26 lakhs. Including the debts newly contracted (Rs. 0·23

lakh), those newly brought to account during the fasli (Rs. 8·32 lakhs) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·76 lakh), the total liabilities amounted to Rs. 20·57 lakhs. Sums of Rs. 6·28 lakhs were repaid and Rs. 0·12 lakh written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 14·17 lakhs at the end of the fasli. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000 in Ārni (Rs. 3·49 lakhs), Madukkūr (Rs. 1 lakh), Kadavūr (Rs. 0·67 lakh), Kūdapalli (Rs. 1·38 lakhs), Sivaganga (Rs. 5·18 lakhs), Mannārkōttai (Rs. 0·53 lakh) and Ilayarasanēndal (Rs. 0·51 lakh). The provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act continued to be in force in the estates of Kadavūr, Ārni, Shūlagiri and Bāgalūr. The total debt inclusive of interest payable by the Kadavūr estate was Rs. 86,625. As against this amount a sum of Rs. 12,000 was paid and Rs. 11,035 (the sum foregone by the creditors) written off in the fasli. A sum of Rs. 22,000 was also paid subsequently. The outstanding liabilities of the Ārni estate at the close of the fasli 1333 were nearly Rs. 3½ lakhs.

Encumbered estates

**Education of wards**

37. The general arrangements made after the closing of Newington for the education and upbringing of the wards continued as in the previous year. The wards mostly attended local schools and colleges.

**Institutions attached to estates**

38. The administration of these institutions was satisfactory and their financial condition was generally sound. The amalgamation of the Ayan, Dēvastānam and Chattram sections in the Sivaganga estate except in the matter of accounts worked well during the fasli. Owing to lack of facilities for improving its resources and want of freedom in curtailing expenditure, the financial condition of the Dēvaswam section of the Zamorin's estate remained unchanged.

Religious and charitable

Educational

The second-grade college maintained by the Zamorin's estate continued to work satisfactorily. At the beginning of the year the strength of the institution was as good as in the previous year, but there was a falling off towards its close. This was probably due to the introduction of half-yearly examinations and in

a few cases to the inability of the students to prosecute their studies. The college had on its rolls nine Muhammadans, twelve Chaliyars (weavers) and thirty-two Thiyas and other classes. There were also four Nambudri students. The results of the Intermediate examination were better than those of the previous year, while the results of the School Final examination were poor as compared with those of the preceding year. There were ten scholarships awarded by the management and ten by Government. The hostel attached to the college continued to be popular with the students. The Zamorin's estate continued to maintain the Residential Vedic School and to contribute to the upkeep of the Sanskrit College at Pattambi. The Raja's High School and the Alice Millar Girls' School in the Sivaganga estate remained under the Raja's supervision subject to the general control of the Estate Collector. The high school did fairly well in the Secondary School Leaving Certificate examination. The financial condition of the high school was sound, but the girls' school was not self-supporting. The management of the hostel and the physical training, in which football, hockey, volley-ball, badminton and other games, under the personal influence of the Raja, played a conspicuous part, were favourably commented on by the District Educational Officer. The Bodokhemidi estate maintained one middle school and two elementary schools—one for boys and the other for girls. The working of these institutions was, on the whole, satisfactory.

Survey of estates

39. The survey of the Sivaganga estate was nearly completed. Field survey work for 920 square miles was completed by 30th June 1924 and the remaining extent was expected to be surveyed before 1st April 1925. Final check work was done for 472 square miles and this work was to be finished by the end of 1925. Cash rents were introduced and pattas issued in all the villages of the Sivaganga taluk. Field work in connexion with commutation of rents was carried out in Mānāmadurai and Tiruppattūr taluks. The survey

of the Rāmapatnam estate which was under contemplation in previous years was taken up and proposals were also called for from the Collector as to the advisability of introducing cash rents. In the Bodokhemidi estate the survey of three villages was almost completed. The survey of the remaining villages in the estate was postponed until the financial condition of the estate improved.

**Estate forests**

40. The forests in Sivaganga, Ārni, Mādugula, Kadavūr and Shūlagiri were worked under rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. In Sivaganga the subject of "forests" continued to be in the hands of the Raja under the Estate Collector's general control. The District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam, continued to exercise supervision over the forests in the Mādugula estate. The Zamorin's estate forests are in charge of a trained ranger. The Nellikuthu forest reserve continued to be under lease to Government and its income was fixed by common agreement at an annual rental of Rs. 700. Negotiations for the surrender of the Pandalūr Malai were completed during the year. The forests of the Bodokhemidi estate were managed by a special staff under the Estate Manager and this resulted in an increase of revenue. The question of leasing the Agency portion of the forests to Government and extending the provisions of the Madras Forest Act to the plains portion was under consideration.

**Other estates**

41. The Cochin portion of the Rāmapatnam estate continued to be under the management of the Cochin Darbar. Its receipts amounted to Rs. 26,176 and expenditure to Rs. 23,031. Out of the debt of Rs. 70,243 due by the estate, an amount of Rs. 9,537 was repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 60,706, the bulk of which was due to the Cochin Dēvastānam.

**Miscellaneous**

42. Government conferred on the Zamindar of Sivaganga the title of "Raja" as a mark of personal distinction. A special darbar was held by a Member of the Local Government to present the title of "Maharaja" to the Zamorin.

## REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1333; Report on the working of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, during fasli 1333*]

**Revenue-paying classes**

43. The revenue-paying classes of this Presidency are chiefly zamindars, inamdars and ryotwari pattadars. The last are by far the largest class of persons who pay land revenue to Government. The assessment on ryotwari holdings was about 78·2 per cent of the total land revenue demand for the year. The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·44 million acres which exceeded the extent in the previous year (as now revised) by 118,945 acres.

**Sub-letting in ryotwari tracts**

One of the principles of the ryotwari system of land tenure is a settlement with the individual cultivator, but sub-letting is prevalent, especially by persons engaged in professions other than agriculture and by capitalists and large landholders. As in the previous year, sub-letting was on the increase in Chingleput; the ryots are largely dependent on the lower classes for labour, but in recent years land is being assigned to these lower classes and so they are becoming more and more independent of the caste ryots. Similarly in Nellore, sub-letting is said to be on the increase because of scarcity of labour on account of the depressed classes becoming landholders. In Gōdāvari, owing to the high price of food-grains, there has been a tendency, both in the year under report and in the previous year, by the ryots to cultivate the land themselves. In the Anantapur district, the poor quality of the soil, the limited means of the average ryot and the unfavourable seasons for the previous four years have checked the tendency to sub-let.

**Rent-paying classes**

44. By rent-paying classes are generally meant the ryots (i.e., tenants) in zamindaris and whole inam villages.

During the year (fasli) under report, there was no evidence of any tendency on the part of these ryots in estates to alienate their land to the

Relations between land-holders and ryots

non-cultivating classes, except in Khallikote and Attagada estates of the Ganjām district, where the ryots are said to be getting poorer year by year.

In certain estates, the relations between the landholders and the ryots have not been cordial. It appears that, in Ganjām, trouble has been fomented between the landholders and the ryots, which makes the collection of rent increasingly difficult. In certain estates in the Trichinopoly district the strained relations are said to be due to the failure of landholders to repair irrigation works and, in the case of one estate, to non-payment of rent by the ryots. Relations between landholders and ryots are reported to be unfriendly in almost all the zamindaris of the Rāmnād district. In the Tinnevelly district relations are strained in certain estates under the management of the Taluk Board, Sērmādēvi, and also in one other estate. In the Nellore, Chittoor, Tanjore, Madura and Salem districts feelings are not of the best in some cases.

# CHAPTER III

## PROTECTION

### LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

45. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

### COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1924-25)

**Changes in the Council**

46. During the year, seven by-elections were held in the Presidency. Two of these were caused by the death of the representatives elected by the Trichinopoly district non-Muhammadan rural constituency and the Central districts Muhammadan rural constituency. Three others were consequent on the resignation of members elected by the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Planters' constituencies. The others were due to the elected members having accepted office under the Crown. In six of the above elections, the representatives were returned unopposed. Two nominated members resigned their seats and their places were duly filled up.

**Legislation**

47. Mention was made in the report for 1923-24 of the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill and the Irrigation Bill. The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill received the assent of the Governor and of the Governor-General during the year under report and has become law. The Irrigation Bill has been passed by the Council and has gone up to the Governor.

During the year, notice was given for the introduction of 21 new Bills. Of these, 13 were to be introduced by Government and 8 were private members' Bills. Of the 21 Bills, 7 had not been formally introduced before the close of the year,

the President refused leave to introduce one other, 8 Bills were passed by the Council and the remaining 5 were pending at the end of the year.

One of the Bills passed fixed the salary of the President of the Legislative Council at Rs. 2,000 per mensem. Another amended the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873. The original amendment Bill which was intended to consolidate the existing Act, to provide for the appointment of more Judges than one in Subordinate Judges' and District Munsifs' Courts, when necessary, and to increase the jurisdiction of District Munsifs was dropped after discussion in the Council, and the Act as finally passed merely contained a provision enabling the appointment of more than one Judge in Subordinate Judges' and District Munsifs' Courts. Three Bills amended the Madras City Municipal Act as follows:—

(1) A provision enabling the taxation of motor or steam vehicles having a carrying capacity of less than one ton has been inserted;

(2) The Finance Secretary has been substituted for the Chief Secretary as a Joint Trustee with the Accountant General for the repayment of debentures;

(3) Private service of water to buildings assessed at an annual value of Rs. 60 and above may now be granted without the sanction of the Standing Committee of the Corporation.

The Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, has been amended. Local Boards, which had money accumulated out of the proceeds of railway cess imposed by them under the old Act, are now empowered to utilize the amount for capital expenditure on roads and bridges after obtaining the sanction of the local Government. The Madras Survey and Boundaries Act Amendment Bill corrected a clerical mistake in the original Act and made certain improvements in drafting. The Madras Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act Amendment Bill was intended to simplify the procedure laid down in the Act for prevention of insect pests.

## POLICE (1924)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

**General**

48. The most noteworthy feature of the year under review was the conclusion of the semi-military operations occasioned by the rebellion in the Gudem Agency. By the end of the year 1923 not much progress had been made. The police force employed, though more than sufficient to deal with the rebels, could they have obtained contact with them, was inadequate to patrol and search the large area over which the rebels moved. The police, however, were reinforced in January 1924 by a detachment of the Assam Rifles consisting of about 250 officers and other ranks. The plan of action ultimately adopted by this force in conjunction with the police was a series of drives through large areas of the country, supplemented by the division of the country into seventeen sub-areas in each of which was located an intelligence officer with an escort. This policy did not at first meet with visible success, but by May there were signs that the rebels were disorganized by the continual pressure, and the end came rapidly. On May 6th after an engagement Satyanarayana Razu—next to Alluri Srirama Razu, the most important rebel leader—was captured. On the following day Alluri Srirama Razu himself, who must have been present at the engagement, was taken. By the end of the month only 25 rebels remained at large. There was now no further necessity to retain the whole of the forces employed in connexion with the rebellion. The Assam Rifles left on the 1st of June and the Malabar Special Police on the 26th. By the end of the year only one important rebel, Sunkoji Mukadu, and 13 others of minor importance remained at large.

**Administrative changes**

49. Owing to the recommendations for retrenchment made by the Police Committee, one of the posts of Deputy Inspector-General was

abolished and the districts were re-grouped into four ranges with effect from the 28th April 1924. As a result of this re-grouping, three districts were added to the charge of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and Criminal Investigation Department, and the range was designated the Criminal Investigation Department and Eastern Range.

The sanctioned strength of the permanent force (exclusive of the East Coast Special Police and the Malabar Special Police) on the last day of the year was 29,327 or 73 less than the corresponding figure for the previous year. The difference is chiefly due to the elimination of the Armed Reserve for the Nilgiri district.

**Casualties**

50. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,489 against 1,717 in the previous year. The health of the force was better than in the previous year.

**Recruitment**

51. In order to effect retrenchment, it was proposed to re-allocate the subdivisional charges in the districts. In consequence of this proposal, recruitment was stopped in the last quarter of 1923. However, as several districts became seriously undermanned, recruitment was revived. Recruits came chiefly from the districts of Bellary (92), Trichinopoly (92), Salem (44), Tanjore (42), and Kurnool (33) and from Madras City (85). At the close of the year under report there were 1,440 vacancies in the force, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 485.

**Education**

52. At the end of the year, 0·7 per cent of the head constables and 5·8 per cent of the constables were classed as illiterate.

The Central Recruits' School at Anantapur and the Central Recruits' School, Vellore, both of which had been re-opened in 1923 were closed again during the year under report.

In the Provincial Police Training School, Vellore, there were ten Probationary Assistant Superintendents under instruction at the beginning of the year. One Probationary Assistant Superintendent and a Probationary Deputy Superintendent (newly appointed) joined the school later in the year.

Including 9 Sub-Inspectors of the City Police there were 70 Sub-Inspectors under training at the school at the end of the year. As the allowance given to Sub-Inspectors for the upkeep of a horse had been discontinued, instruction in riding was no longer given and the horses belonging to the school were disposed of under the orders of Government.

53. The percentage of officers and men punished departmentally during the year was 28·6 of the actual strength. This percentage relates to punishments in respect of offences of all descriptions and is the lowest figure shown during ten years, with the exception of the year 1921, when the percentage was 24·9. Discipline

Powers of appointment, punishment and removal of subordinate police officers were further decentralized during the year and the scope of appeals was restricted.

The number of men dismissed fell from 263 in the previous year to 239 in the year under report. The most interesting feature of these dismissals was the case of 17 constables who took part in a police strike in Kumbakōnam in Tanjore district. The immediate cause was the arrest and confinement in the lock-up of a constable who had assaulted a head constable. The culprit took up a defiant attitude, some of his fellow constables resented the action of the authorities in locking up a member of the force and 43 refused to go on duty. The District Superintendent was at once informed, came to Kumbakōnam and ordered the strikers to return to duty. After some delay, 14 of the men obeyed their Superintendent's orders and returned to duty; later, 27 others followed their example. The strikers were unable to advance any real grievance; the underlying causes of the strike appear to have been that discipline, which had previously been lax, had recently been more rigidly enforced and also the presence in the force of several constables of bad character. Seventeen of the strikers were prosecuted under the Police Act. One of the seventeen was acquitted and the remainder convicted. In addition to the men Dismissals

Kumbakōnam police strike

dismissed for taking part in the strike, nine others were given suspension as a specific punishment.

Madura Police Union

In Madura, some men of the Rāmnād and Madura Reserves and of the Madura Town Police and of the Railway Police formed a Police Union with a local vakil as President. These men showed signs of insubordination; disciplinary measures were taken and the movement came to an end.

Convictions of Police officers

Since 1920, the number of Police officers convicted in Criminal Courts has consistently fallen. In the year, the number was 92, which is five less than the number for the previous year. Of the men convicted, half were convicted for offences committed in their official capacity, and half for offences committed in their private capacity.

Rewards

During the year, eight officers were granted the King's Police Medal and one other received a bar to his medal, another officer became Khan Bahadur, another Khan Sahib, and two others Rao Sahib. One officer was made an M.B.E. An amount of Rs. 26,873 was distributed amongst 3,933 officers for good work. Three Police officers were rewarded by promotion during the year. The number in 1923 was 18.

**Armed Reserves**

54. The Armed Reserves at district headquarters and the Special Forces were maintained in an efficient state and the Emergency Forces were kept up to strength except in a few districts. All the Reserves were mobilized for annual training. An ambulance team trained in the Madura district won the Lord Hardinge Police Ambulance Shield at the competition for police forces held in Calcutta in December 1923. Government sanctioned an amount of Rs. 230 as rewards to the members of the team and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon who trained it. Certain details of the Malabar Special Police were employed in the operations in the Agency for part of the year. The Pandalur Special Force, which had been maintained during the absence of the detachment of the Malabar Special Police in the Agency, was abolished on 16th October. On the departure of the Assam Rifles and the Malabar Special

Police from the Agency in June, the East Coast Special Police took over all the duties connected with the operations and captured or otherwise accounted for several minor rebels.

The Agency rebellion raised the question whether the Armed Reserves were organized and trained in a manner that fitted them for the conduct of the semi-military operations that they might, on occasions, be called on to perform. An officer placed on special duty to enquire into the question found that the Armed Reserves were intended and designed to deal with unarmed mobs. For this purpose they had been found adequate, but experience had proved that certain parts of the Presidency were liable to outbreaks of a character for which the Armed Reserves were neither trained nor organized. The matter was under the consideration of the Government at the end of the year.

**Village Police**

55. Relations with the village officers and their usefulness continued to be much the same as usual. Five hundred and twenty-eight village officers were granted rewards by Police officers for good work. District Magistrates granted rewards to six others. Five hundred and eight village officers were punished at the instance of the police during the year.

**Railway Police**

56. There was no change in the jurisdiction of the Railway Police. There was a decrease of 215 cases of theft within the jurisdiction of the Railway Police, Trichinopoly district, and an increase of 40 cases within the jurisdiction of the Railway Police, Madras district. The total number of thefts decreased from 2,242 to 2,067.

**Derailments, etc., of trains**

There were 10 attempts to derail trains, none of which were made by any organized gang. In two cases, which are pending trial, stones were placed on the rail when a train was approaching as the accused wanted the crushed powder for use on his forehead instead of sacred ashes. There were 19 derailments during the year and 4 collisions. A collision on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was serious. Two goods trains collided owing to the neglect of the Assistant Station Master who prepared line-clear tickets in advance when the block

instrument was out of commission, with the result that three engines were smashed, a number of goods vehicles were seriously damaged and nine of the engine crew killed. The Assistant Station Master was prosecuted. In another case, a goods train ran against signals and collided with an engine and seven vehicles and caused damage estimated at Rs. 50,000.

There were 300 persons run over by trains and killed in the year as against 287 in the previous year.

C.I.D. 57. *The Criminal Investigation Department dealt with certain offences falling under the categories of murder, theft, criminal breach of trust, cheating, forgery, postal frauds and offences in respect of coins and notes. The Cawnpore conspiracy case entailed a good deal of work.*

Finger-print Bureau The Finger-print Bureau dealt with 16,055 references for the antecedents of unidentified persons. Of these, 11,725 were from this Presidency and 4,330 from outside. 28·57 per cent of the references from this Presidency and 11·87 per cent of the references from outside were traced. The number of finger-print slips on record at the end of the year was 170,535.

Crime Grave crime 58. Economic conditions were, generally speaking, not satisfactory during the year. The following table shows the prices of staple grains and the number of cases of grave crime investigated and found to be true, during the last five years:—

| Year. | Number of Government seers per rupee. | | | Grave crimes. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Rice. | Cholam. | Ragi. | |
| 1920 . . | 4·6 | 6·6 | 6·7 | 42,882 |
| 1921 ... | 5·5 | 8·2 | 8·8 | 39,301 |
| 1922 ... .. | 5·5 | 9·0 | 9·3 | 35,883 |
| 1923 ... .. | 6·0 | 10·4 | 9·8 | 32,955 |
| 1924 ... ... | 5·2 | 8·5 | 9·0 | 36,410 |

Whatever the reason may be, the amount of grave crime has followed prices and it will be noticed that a rise in prices during the year under

report has been accompanied by a rise in the number of cases of grave crime. The increase was mainly under theft (8·6 per cent), house-breaking (12·3 per cent) and cattle-theft (21·5 per cent).

Offences against the person and property

Serious offences against the person and property numbered 20,865 as against 19,044 in the previous year, the ratio to population being one case for every 2,028 persons. The incidence was highest in Madras city, the Nilgiris, Cuddapah, Kurnool and Anantapur.

Total cases of cognizable crime

The total number of cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code (excluding nuisances) investigated and found to be true was 53,255, which is an increase of almost 10 per cent over the number for the previous year.

Criminal gangs

The increase occurred in all but five districts. As usual, Kistna had the largest number of cases.

But even if a rise in prices caused an increase in crime, the existence of gangs of desperadoes also affected to a certain degree the number of crimes of violence such as dacoity and robbery. There were several such gangs at work during the year, and it is satisfactory that most of them have been broken up.

It is perhaps interesting to mention the most conspicuous of these gangs.

One of them was a gang of Yerukalas headed by one Kondigadu who started depredations in Nellore, Guntūr, Kurnool and in the Nizam's Dominions in 1921. By resorting to the hills and forests, it evaded arrest. However, on 23rd March the police attacked the gang, but it made its escape. There were further encounters in September, resulting on each occasion in the capture or killing of one or two of its members. Then on 1st October Kondigadu went into the house of a Sub-Inspector who had conducted a raid on Kondigadu, during the course of which Kondigadu's brother had been killed. The Sub-Inspector was stabbed in several places, fortunately without fatal result. But one other man was killed and another wounded. On 23rd December, Kondigadu cut off the nose of a village munsif for having given evidence against certain members of the gang. Finally on 9th January 1925, the gang made a raid on a

village in broad daylight, but the villagers turned upon them, pursued them with spears and killed Kondigadu and two others. The gang ceased to exist. Twenty-four dacoities, murders or attempted murders during the year 1924 are attributed to this gang.

Another gang operated in the Trichinopoly district and was headed by a certain Arumugam Padayachi, who had long been absconding, and to whom many serious crimes are attributed. On 23rd September, a man who had been Arumugam Padayachi's supporter shot him in self-defence when Arumugam was endeavouring to compel him to take part in an attempt to rescue a comrade from police custody. Endeavours were being made at the time to arrest this Arumugam Padayachi by special parties drawn from the districts of Trichinopoly, South Arcot and Tanjore.

In the districts of Tinnevelly, Rāmnād and Madura a certain Krishnaswami Tevan had been carrying on depredations and was supposed to have committed more than 15 grave crimes during a period of 18 months. Two police informants had been shot dead. For many months attempts had been made to capture the gang but without success. At last, on the night of the 20th April when the gang, consisting of 30 to 50 Maravars, well-armed, committed dacoity in a village in Rāmnād district, the villagers, led by a retired havildar, attacked them and killed one of their number, themselves sustaining 13 casualties. Eight of the gang were subsequently captured and convicted and later Krishnaswami Tevan and his brother were run to ground and arrested.

Bomb cases

Bomb cases in the Kurnool and Cuddapah districts had been giving some trouble. A party was placed on special duty to investigate the question. Their work was effective so far as prevention was concerned.

Murders

There were 903 murders during the year. Coimbatore had 140 cases, almost twice as many as any other district.

Detection of crime

The percentage of detection remained much the same as in the previous year ; 33·7 per cent as

against 33 per cent. Investigation was refused in 6·5 per cent* of the cases reported to the Police.

Of the cases* decided by the courts, 74·9 per cent ended in conviction as against 73 per cent in the previous year.

The number of persons who escaped from police custody during the year was 124 ; 86 of these were recaptured in addition to 15 who had escaped during previous years. Escapes

The number of cases struck off during the year as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,641 as against 3,495 in the previous year. Out of the cases prosecuted by the police, ·08 per cent were declared false after trial and enquiry. False cases

During the year, 1,204 persons were ordered to give security by the courts. Of these, 424 were known depredators, 408 were petty thieves and 48 were receivers of stolen property. The number of persons bound over in 1923 was 1,343.

59. The number of persons registered under the Criminal Tribes Act during the year was 6,880 and 1,871 were removed from the registers for good conduct or other reasons. At the end of the year, the total number of persons to whom the Act applied was 32,009. During the year 16 tribes were newly registered. **Control of criminals** Security proceedings and Criminal Tribes Act

The result of bringing the Dandadasis of Ganjām district under the Act was most successful. The commission of crime by them has largely decreased and they have started communal organizations for the eradication of their criminal practices.

The commission of crime by persons from criminal settlements has continued to be a serious matter. For instance, six cases of dacoity in Cuddapah district are attributed to a gang which escaped from the Kavali settlement. But, on the whole, the criminal tribes settlements worked well.

The work of reforming the Kallars in the districts of Madura, Rāmnād and Tanjore continued. This work consisted to a certain extent in forming panchayats, co-operative societies, attempts to get land for the Kallars, attempts to start Reformation of Kallars

*This excludes offences against religion, public and local nuisances, offences under special and local laws declared to be cognizable and offences under the Criminal Tribes Act.

PRO-TECTION

industries amongst them and in education. The total number of panchayats at the end of the year was 878 in Madura and 43 in Rāmnād. These panchayats have been of considerable assistance in the detection of crime. Their co-operation has been responsible for the capture of certain desperate criminals. In Tanjore, out of 31 cases of cattle-theft registered since the formation of Kallar panchayats in 1923, 19 were reported by these panchayats which have also brought to notice 30 cases of cattle-theft, 1 burglary and 28 ordinary thefts which had not been previously registered and which would otherwise not have come to light. As a result of the introduction of these panchayats, the number of history sheets of Kallars maintained in police stations in Tanjore diminished by 75 per cent and the commission of crimes has gone down considerably. In Madura and Rāmnād there were at the end of the year 175 co-operative societies and 307 schools. The work in Tanjore has been retarded, to some extent, by lack of staff.

**Cost**

60. The cost of the department was reduced from Rs. 1,66,51,269 in the financial year 1923-24 to Rs. 1,63,79,538 in the year 1924-25.

**Madras City Police**

General

61. The sanctioned strength of the permanent City Police at the end of 1924 was 1,969, the same as in the previous year. The actual strength at the end of the year was 1,954. There was no deterioration in the general health of the force. Discipline was well maintained. Eight members of the force were convicted during the year, all for offences committed in their private capacity.

Crime

The total number of cases of cognizable crime (excluding nuisance) under the Indian Penal Code investigated and found to be true was 3,027 as against 2,873 in 1923. The increase occurred mainly under house-breaking and theft. The number of nuisance cases increased, while cognizable cases under special and local laws fell from 6,789 to 5,196. There was a sudden outbreak of house-breaking towards the close of the year. A number of locked shops were broken into on successive nights. The offenders were brought to book. Prosecutions for bad livelihood were

instituted against 62 persons, of whom 48 were bound over. The Koravars of the Madras city were declared to be a criminal tribe and their movements restricted to the city.

The work of the Intelligence Department continued to be good. The staff was able to prevent the commission of a dacoity near Poonamallee and of a burglary in the city limits by surprising the offenders and catching them redhanded. A number of well known and absconding criminals were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment in this connexion. The Intelligence Department

The total cost of the City Police Force was Rs. 12,29,329 as against Rs. 12,98,331. Cost

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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1924)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice*]

62. On the 31st December 1924, there were in the Madras Presidency the following Criminal Courts :— General

The High Court, 28 Sessions Courts (including 2 for the Agency Tracts) together with 3 Additional Sessions Judges (including 2 for the Agency Tracts), 24 District Magistrates' Courts, 1 Additional District Magistrate's Court, 3 Presidency Magistrates' Courts, 98 Subdivisional Magistrates' Courts, 23 Courts of Assistant and Deputy Magistrates, without divisional charges, 468 Subordinate Magistrates' Courts (including 172 Tahsildar-Magistrates' Courts), 204 Benches of Magistrates (consisting of 1,444 Honorary Magistrates), 62 Special Magistrates' Courts, and 1 Honorary Magistrate's Court. In addition 8 Subordinate Judges exercised the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. Of the Judges and Magistrates exercising original powers, 90 were Europeans and 862 were Indians and Anglo-Indians ; and of those exercising appellate powers, 80 were Europeans and 119 were Indians and Anglo-Indians. During the year, new Bench Courts were established in two districts, while Bench Courts were abolished in three others. Besides

Magistrates of the classes already mentioned, 1,793 Village Magistrates and 1,729 Panchayat Courts exercised criminal jurisdiction. The number of Panchayat Courts has shown a further increase in the year under report and was largest in North Arcot (502) and smallest in Anantapur (1).

**Original cases and appeals**

63. There was a general increase in most districts in the number of original cases instituted. The increase was particularly noticeable in Tanjore (3,435), North Arcot (3,335) and Salem (2,864). The increase is explained as being largely due to the adverse season. Altogether 350,209 original cases were instituted, an increase of 23,916 over the number for 1923. The total number of appeals fell from 7,975 to 7,493, the average for the preceding five years being 8,527.

Village Magistrates' Courts

In the Village Magistrates' Courts the number of cases instituted fell from 5,337 to 4,484. Of the persons tried, 18·45 per cent were convicted against 16·05 per cent in 1923. The percentage of conviction varied very markedly in different districts. In Tinnevelly, it was as low as 2·9 per cent (1,194 persons were tried), while in Trichinopoly it was 75·9 (195 persons were tried).

Village Panchayat Courts

The total number of cases instituted in Panchayat Courts was 23,100 against 21,030 in the previous year. At the end of the year there were 3,456 cases pending, as compared with 2,152 at the end of 1923. The percentage of conviction was 22·11. It is to be noted that the percentage of convictions is higher in the Panchayat Courts than in the Village Courts.

Bench Courts and Special Magistrates

Bench Courts and Special Magistrates disposed of 97,239 cases during the year.

Regular Magistrates

The total number of cases instituted in the Regular Magistrates' Courts in the mufassal was 190,581 against 179,398 in 1923, and 5,004 were pending at the end of the year against 4,499 at the close of 1923. The average duration from the beginning to the end of trial was eight days as it was in 1923.

The following table shows the average duration in the different classes of Courts. The table

also shows the Courts in which the average duration was high.

| Class of Court. | Average duration in days. | Courts in which duration was high, with average in days. |
|---|---|---|
| Bench Courts ... ... | 3 | ..... |
| Special Magistrates ... | 2 | ..... |
| Sub-Magistrates ... | 11 | Anantapur (24), Trichinopoly (21), Nellore (17). |
| Assistant Magistrates ... | 16 | ..... |
| Joint Magistrates ... | 29 | South Kanara (76), Bellary (60), Anantapur (52). |
| Deputy Magistrates ... | 31 | South Arcot (76), Trichinopoly (70), Ganjām (Agency) (59). |
| District Magistrates ... | 22 | ..... |

The system of fixing particular days in the week for the trial of police cases has been introduced in many districts, and is reported to have worked satisfactorily. But in Gōdāvari and Kistna it has been found impossible to introduce the system in Courts where the presiding Magistrate is a touring officer.

Presidency Magistrates

The total number of cases instituted in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts was 46,495 against 40,752 in 1923, and 134 cases involving 225 persons who had appeared before the Courts were pending at the close of the year. Of these, only 15 were in custody.

Sessions Courts

The number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal was 1,873 against 1,710 in 1923. The following are the Courts which had the largest number of cases committed to them. The table gives the increase over the previous year, where it was marked.

| | | Increase over previous year. |
|---|---|---|
| Coimbatore ... ... ... | 257 | 80 |
| Tinnevelly ... ... ... | 165 | ... |
| South Malabar ... ... ... | 156 | 54 |
| Salem ... ... ... ... | 153 | 40 |

There was also a marked increase, 38 cases, in Guntūr. There was a decrease of 52 cases in the Agency tracts owing to the disposal of most of the cases arising out of the fituri. There was also a decrease in Anantapur (22), Kurnool (15) and Kistna (10). The total number of cases pending in Sessions Courts at the end of the year was 146,

an increase of 58 over the figure for 1923. Coimbatore had the highest number (24). The average duration of cases disposed of by Sessions Courts rose from 46 days to 49 days. The duration was highest in Rāmnād (85 days), Ganjām (72 days), East Tanjore (72 days).

The percentage of conviction varied considerably in different Courts, being as low as 17·30 in East Tanjore and reaching 70 in North Malabar.

High Court

The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 23. One case was pending at the end of the year.

**Appeals**

Magistrates' Courts

64. Second- and third-class Magistrates (excluding Assistant Magistrates) convicted 85,422 persons during the year and of these 10,341 appealed to first-class Magistrates; the number of appellants in 1923 was 11,255. The appeals of 651 persons were pending at the close of the year against 582 at the end of 1923. The average period which elapsed between the presentation of an appeal and its disposal in the Courts of Subdivisional Magistrates was 19 days against 21 days in 1923. The average was highest in—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vizagapatam (Agency) | ... | ... | 42 days |
| Trichinopoly | ... | ... | 39 „ |
| Tinnevelly | ... | ... | 32 „ |

The percentage of appellants successful in having their convictions reversed or the proceedings quashed was 37·08. The percentage in 1923 was 34·81.

Sessions Courts

Of the 8,593 persons convicted by first-class Magistrates, 2,464 appealed to Sessions Courts; an increase of 73 over the number in 1923. The number of persons whose appeals were pending at the end of the year was 253 against 232 at the end of 1923. The average duration of appeals in the Sessions Courts was 35 days, the same as in 1923. The average was highest in—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tinnevelly | ... 63 days | Nellore | ... 52 days |
| Cuddapah | ... 54 „ | Ganjām | ... 51 „ |
| Chittoor | .. 52 „ | East Tanjore. | 51 „ |

The percentage of appellants who had their convictions reversed or the proceedings quashed was 29·73 against 26·80 in 1923.

The High Court

The number of persons who appealed to the High Court was 1,254 which is 2,127 less than the number for 1923. The decrease is largely due to the disposal of most of the cases arising out of the Mappilla rebellion.

The Government appealed against the acquittal of 44 persons; of the 51 persons (including 7 whose cases were pending from the previous year) under trial, the acquittal was upheld in the case of 25 persons, in the case of 7 the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded, while in the case of 14 the acquittal was reversed and new trial ordered and in the case of the remaining 5 persons the appeals were pending at the end of the year.

The disposal of appeals other than those by Government is shown in the following table:—

| | Number of persons. |
|---|---|
| Rejected *in limine* ... ... ... | 346 |
| Finding and sentences maintained after notice ... ... ... ... ... | 354 |
| Sentences reduced or otherwise altered. | 119 |
| Convictions reversed ... ... ... | 210 |
| New trial or further inquiry ordered ... | 20 |
| Pending at the end of the year ... ... | 205 |

The number pending at the end of 1923 was 248.

The average duration of an appeal was 49 days as against 48 in 1923. The percentage of entirely successful appeals was 20·02 against 12·45 per cent in 1923.

**Reference and revision**

Magistrates' Courts

65. The number of applications for revision presented in the District Magistrates' Courts was 649 against 706 in 1923. The District Magistrates took up 15 cases *suo motu* or on reports from their Subdivisional Magistrates. The number in the previous year was 17.

Sessions Courts

In Sessions Courts, 710 applications for revision were presented, which is 127 more than in the previous year, and the number of cases taken up by them *suo motu* was 55 against 47 in 1923.

High Court

The number of revision petitions received in the High Court was 948, or 13 less than the number in 1923. One hundred and five cases were reported by District Magistrates and Sessions

Judges and 51 were taken up by the High Court *suo motu*. The number of revision petitions disposed of during the year was 936 and 326 were left pending.

References on death sentences

References in the case of 120 persons sentenced to death were disposed of by the High Court. In the case of 60 persons, the convictions were upheld and the sentences confirmed. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 15 persons and to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of 12. Convictions of 30 persons were reversed and they were acquitted, and in the case of 3, the conviction was set aside and a new trial ordered. Two persons were reprieved by the local Government, the sentence of death being commuted to transportation for life. The total number of persons actually to be executed was 58, i.e., just over 5 per cent of those committed to sessions.

**Jury system**

66. Of the 1,292 persons tried by jury, the verdict was approved in the case of 1,246 persons. In the case of 45 persons, when the Judge considered the verdict sufficiently perverse, a reference was made to the High Court who upheld the verdict of the jury in the case of 17 persons, modified it in the case of 1, reversed it in the case of 18, (5 of whom had been found guilty and 13 not guilty), and the cases of 9 persons were left pending at the end of the year.

**Assessors**

67. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 2,146. In the case of 1,045 persons the Judges agreed with all the assessors, in the case of 639 persons they differed from one or more of them and in the case of 462 they differed from all the assessors.

**Punishments**

68. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 235,982. The nature of these sentences is given in the following table :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Death ... ... ... ... ... | 61 |
| Transportation ... ... ... | 192 |
| Rigorous imprisonment ... ... | 19,179 |
| Simple imprisonment ... ... | 12,419 |
| Forfeiture of property ... ... | 115 |
| Fine ... ... ... ... ... | 203,371 |
| Whipping ... ... ... ... | 645 |
| Total ... | 235,982 |

The total fines imposed amounted to Rupees 11,46,238, of which a sum of Rs. 54,143 was paid to complainants as compensation.

69. During the year, 1,729 boys and 513 girls were convicted. The number of juvenile offenders was particularly large in North Arcot (282), Madura (250) and Salem (242). The sentences on 43 boys were commuted to detention in the Reformatory Schools. Two hundred and eight were discharged after admonition and 27 were delivered to their parents or guardians. **Juveniles**

70. Of the total number of cases under the Indian Penal Code for disposal, 13·52 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, as the Magistrate found no reasonable grounds for proceeding further. The percentage of conviction in cases relating to offences under the Indian Penal Code was 40·71 as compared with 38·56 per cent in the previous year. Cases of theft reported increased by 1,933 in the year. There was an increase of 26 cases in the number of offences affecting life. Murder cases were charged chiefly in Coimbatore (68), Salem (32), Madura (28) and Cuddapah (26). **Miscellaneous**

71. The total receipts of Civil and Criminal Courts in the Presidency in 1924 amounted to Rs. 1,60,10,663 and the charges to Rs. 98,13,025 leaving a surplus of Rs. 61,97,638. **Finance**

## PRISONS (1924)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons*]

72. During the year there were in the Presidency 10 central jails, 4 district jails and 2 special jails as in the previous year; but the number of sub-jails was reduced from 317 to 316 as one sub-jail was closed. The designation of the Borstal Institution, Tanjore, was changed into "The Borstal School, Tanjore." At the close of the year there was accommodation in the jails for 20,477 prisoners of all classes. **Accommodation**

Prisoners of all classes

73. On the 1st January 1924 there were 20,927 prisoners of all classes in confinement. During the year, 90,230 were received and 90,846 discharged, leaving a balance of 20,311 prisoners at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners was 20,960 as compared with 22,243 in the preceding year. This decrease in the prison population is due to the release of a large number of Mappilla prisoners effected under the suspension of sentence scheme and as a result of the inquiry instituted by the Special Officer deputed to investigate the cases of those whose part in the Mappilla rebellion was small and whose previous character had been good. The extension of the remission system to prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for terms of six months and over also helped to reduce the jail population.

Convicts

At the beginning of the year there were 18,020 male and 223 female convicts. The number received by direct committal during the year was 21,977 males as compared with 22,839 in 1923 and 895 females as compared with 983 in 1923. There has thus been a decrease in the number of persons received by direct committal. The largest number of direct committals, viz., 1,708, was from Salem district. The number of convicts received by transfer from sub-jails and other jails was 23,104.

2,515 convicts were released on appeal, 16,590 on expiry of sentence and 4,852 under the Remission rules. The number of convicts released by order of Government was 1,209, of whom 142 were released on the recommendation of the Advisory Boards, 474 under the scheme of suspended fine sentence, 513 as a result of the revision of sentences by the Special Officer deputed to investigate the cases of Mappillas, 24 on medical grounds and the remaining 56 for other reasons. Six convicts were deported to the Andamans, 32 transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 7 escaped and remained at large, 52 were executed and 225 died.

At the close of the year, there were 17,282 persons in custody against 18,243 in 1923. The daily average number of convicts fell from 19,174·49 in 1923 to 18,105·79 in the year under report.

During the year, Government approved of the concentration of mental defectives and recovered criminal lunatics in the District Jail, Cuddalore. Fifty-seven persons were admitted during the year, 2 died within a fortnight after admission, 2 were transferred to the Mental Hospital and 3 were transferred for release and one was released. Mental defectives

During the year, Government ordered that immediate steps should be taken to set apart a ward, in every medical institution having accommodation for in-patients, for the reception of civil lunatics sent for observation. The object of this order was to prevent the detention of this class of persons in the jails as has hitherto been necessary. Civil lunatics

The number of persons under trial who were received into the jails was 39,477 as against 38,846 in 1923 and the number discharged was 39,306 as against 41,126 in 1923. At the end of the year, there were 1,978 of these persons in custody. The daily average was 2,095 or 328 less than in the previous year. Of the total population dealt with excluding transfers and those at the end of the year pending trial, 41·32 per cent were convicted and 58·57 per cent were acquitted and released. Ten persons under trial escaped from subsidiary jails and 17 persons died. Under-trial prisoners

The average period of detention before Sessions Courts fell from 30·08 days in the preceding year to 27·26 days in the year under report, and that before Magistrates rose from 10·68 days to 17·35. Detention of under-trial prisoners

The number of civil prisoners including State prisoners who were in custody at the beginning of the year was 877. 4,777 were received during the year, making a total of 5,654. Of these, 4,484 were released, 111 transferred and 8 died, leaving 1,051 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average population rose from 645·15 in 1923 to 758·91 in the year under report. Civil prisoners

There were 203 State prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year and 52 were admitted during the year. Of the latter, 12 were concerned in the Mappilla rebellion and 40 in the Ituri Five State prisoners died, one was transferred to Nandyāl for detention under police surveillance State prisoners

and another who volunteered to go to the Andamans was transported during the year. The 40 futuri prisoners were released during the year. At the end of the year there were 208 persons still in confinement of whom two were prisoners from the Agency and the rest Mappillas.

Star class

The system of classifying as Star class certain selected prisoners whose previous character had been good worked satisfactorily. These prisoners are kept apart from ordinary prisoners at night and, as far as possible, during the day. Convict officers are generally selected from this class.

Special division

Very few prisoners were admitted during the year to the special division created in 1923. This division is intended for selected prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment for whom the ordinary treatment is considered unsuitable because of their education, status and character. The selection is made by the convicting courts subject to confirmation by Government.

Habituals

Habituals formed 21 per cent of the convict population. (3,571 were in confinement at the beginning of the year, and 3,545 were admitted during the year.) These habituals received 1,317 of the total number of jail punishments and 5 of the 15 whippings. Separation of habituals from casuals was insisted upon. All confirmed criminals of the recidivist class are confined in the special habitual jails at Salem and Vizagapatam.

Religion of convicts

Of the 22,872 convicts received by direct committal, 87·83 per cent were Hindus, 8·86 per cent Muhammadans and 3·31 per cent Christians. The percentage of Hindus increased, while that of Muhammadans and Christians decreased.

Juveniles

The number of convicts under sixteen years of age who were admitted during the year was 45 as compared with 59 in the previous year, and the number of persons under the age of 15 fell from 17 to 7. All the 7 were transferred to the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput. Similarly, the number of young persons from 16 to 20 years of age fell from 1,877 to 1,530 and the number of adolescents of 21 to 23 years of age from 2,035 to 1,634.

In the Borstal School, Tanjore, there were 492 inmates at the beginning of the year. Of these 437 were between 15 and 21 years of age and 55 between 21 and 23 years of age. At the end of the year there were 497 boys in the school. The system of grading the boys as "ordinary," "star" and "special star," introduced to create healthy rivalry amongst the boys and to permit of proper classification and separation, worked satisfactorily. On the recommendation of the Advisory Board, seven boys were released. This system was replaced by an arrangement whereby satisfactory boys are released on probation for service under private employers. Borstal School

The general conduct of the inmates was satisfactory. This is borne out by the smaller number of offences and punishments inflicted during the year.

The Local Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society is reported to be working satisfactorily. During the year, Government directed that a Borstal inmate should not be released until suitable employment had been found for him and a probation officer appointed to look after him.

Owing to insufficiency of accommodation in the Borstal School, Tanjore, a large number of Mappilla adolescents were concentrated at the District Jail, Palamcottah, and given a modified course of Borstal treatment which comprised drill and physical training, education and training for trades. District Jail, Palamcottah

74. There were 16 escapes from jails during the year as against 18 in the previous year. Of these, 5 were from inside and 11 from outside the jails. Nine were re-captured in addition to 3 others who had escaped during previous years. **Escapes**

75. During the year, 3,432 offences against convicts were reported, including 13 offences dealt with by Criminal Courts. The percentage of punishments to average strength rose from 18·26 in the previous year to 18·97 in the year under report. Corporal punishment was inflicted on 15 prisoners during the year as against 1 in the previous year. This form of punishment is given as a last resort. **Offences**

Education

76. Education, both technical and elementary, was given to prisoners. Lectures on religious and moral subjects, health and sanitation were given. All jails are provided with libraries and facilities are afforded to such prisoners as desire to make use of books.

Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society

77. The work of the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society has expanded considerably, and the persons for whose benefit the society is intended find it useful. The Prisoners' Home, Madras, has given shelter and food to discharged prisoners and also accommodated and fed Mappilla women and children during their stay in Madras on their way to the Andamans to join self-supporting settlers there. The Society has also undertaken the duty of paying the usual bonus of Rs. 25 to Borstal boys on release. This sum had hitherto been met from the Jail budget. A contribution of Rs. 3,000 was sanctioned by Government in December. In Trichinopoly and Palamcottah, the local branches of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society are not flourishing.

Convict officers

78. Of the daily average population 6·54 per cent of the men and 5·64 per cent of the women were employed as convict officers.

The system of employing selected habitual convicts as convict night watchmen in habitual wards continued to work satisfactorily.

Remission

79. During the year, the remission system was extended to prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for terms of six months and over and the grant of ordinary remission awarded for thoroughly good conduct and scrupulous attention to prison regulations was increased from 1 to 2 days a month irrespective of the two days already admissible for industry and the due performance of the daily task imposed. Special remission for continuous good conduct was awarded to 9,426 convicts and extra remission for work turned out over and above the prescribed task was given to 1,239 convicts.

Advisory Boards

80. The Advisory Boards considered the question of conditional release of 429 convicts; 260 cases were rejected, and 169 recommended to

Government for release. Of the cases recommended, 33 were rejected by Government and 119 were ordered to be released, and 17 cases were pending orders of Government at the end of the year.

Vital statistics and sanitation

81. In comparison with the year 1923, the sickness and mortality in the year under report have shown a satisfactory decline. The number of admissions to the hospital decreased by 1,985 and the daily average sick was 309·27 against 383·61 in 1923. The death-rate fell from 16·54 to 11·93 per mille of average strength. For the second year in succession, the record for low mortality has been broken. This result is in no small measure due to the several improvements effected during the year both in sanitation and water-supply and to the care bestowed by medical officers. There was one death from cholera. There were 1,184 cases of dysentery against 918 in the previous year. The increase was due to a large number of relapses of chronic dysentery in the Alipuram Jail where a large number of old and decrepit Mappillas were housed. It was found that cases of latent dysentery were responsible for the periodic outbreaks of gastro-enteritis in that jail, one of which was mentioned in last year's report. There were two cases of suicide and two cases of accidental death.

All jails are now provided with a sanitary and self-contained central laundry system.

Of the persons discharged during the year, 74·77 per cent gained in weight as against 73·09 in 1923; only 9·62 per cent lost weight, the figure in 1923 being 9·80 per cent.

Visits

82. The number of visits paid by official and non-official visitors during the year was 821 as against 738 in 1923.

Finance

83. The total expenditure in the year, excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works Department, amounted to Rs. 30,53,884. The total expenditure has dropped, compared with the previous year, by Rs. 2,23,498, the reduction being noticeable under all heads except clothing and bedding of prisoners and contingencies. Deducting the charges against manufactures,

general supervision, travelling allowance of gazetted establishment, petty construction and repairs, charges for police custody and making some other adjustments, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 23,49,477 against Rs. 25,31,389 in the previous year, and the average cost of each prisoner fell from Rs. 113-12-11 to Rs. 112-1-6.

The total value of articles manufactured in jails rose from Rs. 8,26,084 to Rs. 8,39,478, while the percentage of convicts employed under manufactures fell from 49·39 to 41·56.

The value of supplies made to the Police Department increased from Rs. 60,714 to Rs. 1,41,349, and supplies to the Military Department increased from Rs. 8,685 to Rs. 44,743.

The cash earnings during the year amounted to Rs. 1,25,304 against Rs. 1,11,841 in 1923.

The outlay on jail buildings was Rs. 3,64,019 and the expenditure incurred by the department under "Petty construction and repairs" amounted to Rs. 35,135.

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## CIVIL JUSTICE (1924)

*[Statistics of Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice]*

**General**

84. On the 31st December 1924, there were, in the Madras Presidency, the following permanent Civil Courts:—

The High Court, The Presidency Court of Small Causes, The City Civil Courts, 27 District Courts (including 3 for Agency tracts), 43 Subordinate Judges' Courts (including 7 for Agency tracts and 1 Revenue Officer exercising the powers of a Subordinate Judge), 2 Special Small Cause Courts, 179 District Munsifs' Courts (including 22 for the Agency tracts and 5 Revenue officers exercising the powers of District Munsifs) and 127 Revenue Courts.

In addition there were certain temporary Subordinate Judges' Courts and District Munsifs' Courts.

85. The total number of suits instituted in the year in all Courts, including Village and Panchayat Courts, was 559,665, an increase of over 8,000 on the figure for 1923 and of over 29,000 on the figure for 1922. For the Presidency as a whole one suit was instituted for every 76 persons of the population as compared with one for every 77 persons in 1923. Malabar, North and South, which form one Revenue district, was the most litigious area ; one suit was instituted for every 37 persons. Apart from the Agency tracts, Anantapur was the least litigious district, not more than one suit being filed for every 222 persons. The largest number of suits filed in any one district was 82,893 in Malabar (North and South). Bellary contributed the smallest number (4,249). The following table gives some details of the nature of the suits instituted in the Presidency:— **Litigation** Number of suits

| | 1923. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|
| Suits for money or movable property ... | 483,153 | 489,544 |
| Suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits ... | 18,818 | 18,986 |
| Mortgage suits ... ... | 20,621 | 22,046 |
| Suits for specific relief ... | 3,857 | 4,585 |
| Suits in Revenue Courts. | 23,115 | 23,103 |

The value of suits instituted in 1924 in Courts other than Village, Panchayat and Revenue Courts and unpaid tribunals declined to Rs. 8,12,22,885. This decline presumably indicates a return to more normal conditions ; there was a steady rise in the years 1919 to 1921 followed by a rapid fall in the succeeding years. The average value of a suit in 1924 was Rs. 271 against Rs. 331 in 1923 and Rs. 371 in 1922. Value of suits

In last year's report, for 1923, it was noticed that there had been a great decrease in the number of suits triable by Village and Panchayat Courts, which were filed before the higher tribunals. There has been a further decrease of 8,714 in the year under report. It is most satisfactory to note Village and Panchayat Courts

that the tendency to prefer the Village Courts for the trial of petty local disputes is on the increase.

Decrees

Plaintiffs succeeded in obtaining decrees for the whole or part of the relief claimed by them in 79·74 per cent of the suits disposed of during the year, exclusive of suits compromised or disposed of without trial. This is a slight increase on the percentage (79·13) in 1923. The average for the preceding five years was 77·53.

Appeals

The total number of appeals preferred in 1924 was 16,872 which is 227 more than in 1923.

**Original Jurisdiction**

86. The total number of suits instituted in Village Courts was 93,108 against 88,106 in 1923 and 99,545 in 1922.

Village Courts

Panchayat Courts

There was an increase in the number of suits filed in Panchayat Courts. The number was 144,021 against 139,630 in 1923. The increase was most marked in East Tanjore, South Arcot and North Malabar. There was a notable decrease in Tinnevelly and also in Rāmnād. The number of suits transferred by District Munsifs to Village and Panchayat Courts has increased from 1,042 in 1923 to 1,782 in 1924, but, though the increase is considerable, it is apparently still much lower than it ought to be, in view of the High Court's instructions on the subject.

Revenue Courts

There has been a slight increase in the number of suits filed in the Revenue Courts, other than in Agency tracts. The most marked increase was in Rāmnād, from 3,084 in 1923 to 4,581 in 1924. There was a considerable decrease in Chittoor, from 3,314 in 1923 to 2,410 in 1924, and in Madura, from 2,840 in 1923 to 2,208 in 1924. Disposals have increased and the number of pending suits has fallen from 10,420 in 1923 to 7,738 in 1924. The average duration, in days, of pending suits is shown below with comparative figures for 1923 and 1924 :—

| | 1923. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|
| Uncontested suits ... ... | 120 | 146 |
| Contested suits ... ... | 327 | 336 |

Appeals

Appeals were preferred against 10·49 per cent of the appealable decrees passed by Revenue Courts. The figure for 1923 was 13·27. Of the original

decrees appealed against, 26·39 per cent were confirmed. In 1923, 23·41 per cent were confirmed.

The following table shows the disposal of business in Agency Courts:— Agency Courts

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of in 1924. | Pending at end of year. | | Average duration of contested suits. | | Average duration of uncontested suits. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 1,274 | 1,561 | 1,608 | 647 | 543 | 93 | 189 | 117 | 87 |

In the District Munsifs' Courts, other than those in Agency tracts, the number of ordinary suits instituted was greater than in 1923 or in 1922. Seventeen districts show increases, the increase being marked in Coimbatore and South Kanara. The increase in these districts is attributed to the tightness of the money market and the consequent tendency of debtors to evade payment of their debts, and to speculation in commercial circles. Salem and Anantapur both show a marked decrease in the number of suits instituted. The District Judge of Anantapur attributes the fall in his district to the prevalence of famine conditions. Disposals during the year increased and the number of suits pending at the end of 1924 was less than in 1923. The number of suits pending for over a year also fell. The following table gives some indication of the state of business :— District Munsifs' Courts

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over one year at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 101,806 | 106,545 | 107,575 | 112,555 | 50,956 | 48,073 | 10,500 | 8,713 | 351 | 332 | 61 | 61 |

As regards Small Cause suits, there was a marked fall in the number of suits instituted and there was a corresponding fall in disposals. The fall in the number of suits filed is, in the main, due to the increased jurisdiction of Village Munsifs' Courts and to the increasing popularity of Panchayat Small Causes

Courts. The average duration of contested suits increased but that for uncontested suits remained as it was in 1923. The following table shows the state of affairs:—

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over three months at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 132,953 | 128,862 | 131,789 | 129,898 | 16,413 | 15,427 | 2,014 | 1,478 | 86 | 96 | 45 | 45 |

Appeals

There were appeals against 15·51 per cent of the appealable decrees passed by District Munsifs' Courts. The figure was 11·33 in 1923 and 10·52 in 1922. Of these decrees appealed against, 58·21 per cent of the number decided were confirmed.

Special Small Cause Courts

The following table shows the result of the working of Special Small Cause Courts:—

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 17,181 | 11,180 | 17,460 | 11,888 | 3,000 | 1,057 | 120 | 180 | 37 | 40 |

It will be seen that there has been a decrease in the number of suits instituted, the number disposed of and the number pending at the end of the year but that the average duration of suits disposed of has increased.

Subordinate Judges' Courts

The number of ordinary suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts increased. The rise was marked in Coimbatore, Tiruvālūr (Tanjore district) and Trichinopoly. Disposals showed an increase and there were fewer suits pending at the end of the year. The number of suits over one year old also fell. The following are the figures:—

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over one year at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 2,027 | 2,077 | 3,461 | 3,750 | 3,520 | 3,109 | 1,787 | 1,195 | 615 | 636 | 81 | 78 |

With regard to Small Causes, the number of suits instituted, disposals and number of suits pending at the end of the year have increased, but the number of suits which, at the end of the year, were pending for more than three months, and the average duration of suits have decreased. The following table explains the situation:— Small Causes

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over three months at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 24,761 | 27,804 | 25,125 | 24,659 | 5,024 | 5,158 | 1,339 | 1,020 | 140 | 135 | 57 | 55 |

The above figures exclude Special Small Cause Courts.

The returns show that, in District Courts (excluding the Courts in Agency tracts), the number of suits instituted and the number disposed of increased. The number of suits pending at the end of the year fell. There was also a decrease in the number of suits pending for over one year. The average duration of contested original suits increased but the average duration of uncontested suits fell. The figures are given below:— District Courts

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over one year at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 175 | 528 | 327 | 351 | 626 | 558 | 250 | 230 | 461 | 542 | 109 | 130 |

The following are the figures for the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Court of Small Causes:— City Civil Court and Presidency Court of Small Causes

| | Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| City Civil Court ... | 532 | 403 | 616 | 663 | 346 | 401 | 345 | 323 | 50 | 45 |
| Presidency Court of Small Causes. | 17,773 | 18,203 | 16,419 | 16,263 | 4,518 | 3,561 | 123 | 133 | 60 | 60 |

The High Court

87. In the High Court, the number of suits filed was less than in 1923, the decrease being chiefly noticeable under the head of "Suits for money or movable property." Disposals decreased and the arrears rose. The decrease in disposals is partly explained by the fact that, for the greater part of the year, only two courts were sitting on the original side and much time was taken up by chamber and other work. The average duration of suits disposed of increased. This is largely explained by the number of very old suits decided. The following are the figures showing the institution and disposal of suits:—

| Number of suits instituted. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Average duration of contested suits in days. | | Average duration of uncontested suits in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 979 | 893 | 962 | 870 | 1,349 | 1,395 | 497 | 609 | 175 | 183 |

Insolvency petitions

88. The number of insolvency petitions, both in the High Court and in mufassal courts, has again shown an increase. Disposals increased in the mufassal but decreased in the High Court. It appears not unlikely that many small insolvencies are really fraudulent. The following are some particulars of these applications:—

| | Number filed. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Value of creditors' claims admitted. | | Total amount of assets distributed. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| | | | | | | | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| Mufassal ... | 2,800 | 3,209 | 4,570 | 5,255 | 1,493 | 1,959 | 22,01,104 | 43,88,069 | 6,48,775 | 8,46,217 |
| High Court ... | 405 | 458 | 93 | 62 | 1,375 | 1,771 | 21,20,910 | 20,07,310 | 3,05,189 | 2,46,110 |

Appellate Courts

Agency Courts

89. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts rose from 57 in 1923 to 77 in 1924. The number disposed of was 95, and 26 were pending at the end of the year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 180 days against 105 days in 1923. The percentage of decrees confirmed out of

those appealed against was 42·11 as compared with 54·76 in 1923.

District and Subordinate Judges' Courts

There has been an increase in the total number of appeals (both regular and miscellaneous) filed in District and in Subordinate Judges' Courts. Subordinate Judges have shown a larger disposal of regular appeals than in 1923, but the arrears have risen. The number of appeals pending for more than six months has also risen; since 1919 the number of such appeals pending at the end of the year has been steadily getting greater, but the increase in 1924 has been most marked. The average duration of appeals disposed of has decreased. District Judges have disposed of more appeals than in 1923 and the arrears have decreased. The average duration of uncontested appeals has fallen, but, in the case of contested appeals, it has increased. The increase is explained by the amount of time devoted to a few old cases. The following table shows the position as regards regular appeals:—

| — | Number of appeals filed. | | Number disposed of. | | Number pending at the end of | | Number pending for over six months at the end of | | Average duration of contested appeals in days. | | Average duration of uncontested appeals in days | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| Subordinate Judges' Courts ... | 1,320 | 2,323 | 5,757 | 6,286 | 2,767 | 3,927 | 1,080 | 2,030 | 380 | 363 | 255 | 216 |
| District Judges' Courts ... | 10,630 | 10,227 | 1,833 | 5,0 9 | 10,700 | 10,163 | 1,788 | 4,809 | 341 | 500 | 302 | 213 |

High Court

The following table shows the position with regard to the disposal of appeals by the High Court:—

| — | Number filed during | | Number disposed of during | | Number pending at the end of | | Average duration in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| From original decrees of mufassal Courts ... .. | 470 | 460 | 214 | 385 | 1,167 | 1,251 | | |
| From orders of mufassal Courts . | 496 | 480 | 386 | 384 | 621 | 717 | | |

| | Number filed during | | Number disposed of during | | Number pending at the end of | | Average duration in days. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| From decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court ... | 120 | 91 | 106 | 101 | 152 | 142 | 556 | 639 |
| From decrees of the City Civil Court ... | 147 | 41 | 53 | 50 | 181 | 172 | | |
| Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals) .. ... | 34 | 181 | 28 | 79 | 26 | 128 | 209 | 163 |
| Appeals against appellate decrees... | 1,899 | 1,462 | 770 | 1,782 | 3,439 | 3,119 | 582 | 727 |
| Appeals against appellate orders ... | 143 | 145 | 93 | 102 | 191 | 234 | | |

The marked increase in the number of Letters Patent appeals filed is largely explained by the experiment of having City Civil Court appeals and second appeals tried by a single Judge. The following table gives the percentage of various classes of appeals dismissed :-

| | |
|---|---|
| First appeals from District Courts ... | 73·47 |
| Do. Subordinate Judges' Courts ... ... ... ... | 68·03 |
| First appeals from City Civil Court ... | 86·00 |
| Do. Original Side ... ... | 58·42 |
| Second appeals ... ... ... ... | 61·36 |
| Letters Patent appeals ... ... ... | 89·87 |

Appeals to the Privy Council

At the beginning of the year there were 9 applications for leave to appeal to the Privy Council pending before the High Court. During the year, 32 new applications were received. Leave was granted in the case of 21 applications, refused in 7 others and 13 were pending at the close of the year. The number of Privy Council appeals pending preparation in the High Court at the beginning of the year was 28 and 9 others were received ; 23 appeals were despatched to England and 14 were under preparation at the end of the year. During the year, the Privy Council had 45 appeals for disposal ; of these 8 were dismissed with

costs, 4 allowed, 1 dismissed for non-prosecution, and the remainder, 32 appeals, were pending at the end of the year.

90. The disposal of revision petitions filed in the High Court is illustrated by the following table:— **Reference and revision**

| Number filed in | | Number disposed of in | | Number pending at the end of | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| 1,221 | 1,150 | 873 | 1,009 | 1,344 | 1,496 |

Of the petitions filed, 443 were for the revision of decisions in Small Cause suits and 81·50 per cent of those 443 were dismissed, compared with 78·31 per cent in 1923. Of the total number of petitions disposed of, 80·77 per cent were dismissed against 75·83 per cent in 1923.

The number of cases referred by lower Courts, the Commissioner of Income-tax and the Board of Revenue, to the High Court, was 21. At the end of the year, 9 cases were pending disposal.

91. A table to illustrate the disposal of applications for execution is given below:— **Execution applications**

| Number received in | | Number disposed of in | | Number pending at the end of | | Number of those disposed of in which satisfaction was obtained in full. | | Number of those disposed of in which satisfaction was obtained in part. | | Total amount realized in | | Number of debtors imprisoned in | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 | 1923 | 1924 |
| In all mufassal Courts except Village and Panchayat Courts. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 337,480 | 353,040 | 337,884 | 352,052 | 52,920 | 50,065 | PER CENT 15·94 | PER CENT 15·08 | PER CENT 7·98 | PER CENT 8·10 | | † | 3,482 | 3,732 |
| In the City Civil Court, Presidency Court of Small Causes and the High Court. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15,110 | 16,918 | 14,451 | 17,800 | 3,115 | 2,224 | 8·16 | 10·80 | 3·45 | 0·17 | ‡ | § | 102 | 97 |

Rs. 1,03,73,954. † Rs. 1,61,25,105. ‡ Rs. 4,16,193. § Rs. 2,90,130.

92. In the mufassal Courts, other than Village and Panchayat Courts, 2,933,161 processes were **Processes**

served by amins and peons, giving an average of 188 for each amin and 365 for each peon. The receipts from the execution of processes were Rs. 21,13,833, and the charges Rs. 19,73,739, leaving a surplus of Rs. 1,40,094.

**Legal practitioners**

93. At the end of the year, there were on the rolls of the High Court 245 advocates, 2,136 vakils and 65 attorneys and in the mufassal Courts there were 2,997 first-grade pleaders and 984 second-grade pleaders. During the year, 396 legal practitioners were admitted.

**Miscellaneous**

94. The system of permitting District Munsifs of seven years' standing to dictate judgments in open Court to shorthand writers is reported to have worked satisfactorily on the whole.

**Finance**

95. The total receipts for Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts in the Presidency in 1924 amounted to Rs. 1,60,10,663, and the charges to Rs. 98,13,025, leaving a surplus of Rs. 61,97,638. The expenditure by the Public Works Department was Rs. 1,63,730. The cost of printing in the Government Press was Rs. 2,34,831 and of stationery supplied to the Government Press Rs. 76,338. There were 47 Civil Courts (including 11 temporary Courts) working in rented buildings and a sum of Rs. 33,032 was spent on rent in 1924–25.

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## REGISTRATION (1924) AND COMPANIES (1924–25)

[*Note on the statistics of the Registration Department for the year 1924 (G.O. No. 98, Law (Registration), dated the 20th May 1925), and Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, for 1924–25 (G.O. No. 1991, Law (General), dated the 24th June 1925); Statistical Abstract for British India—Registration and Joint Stock Companies*]

**Registration**

**Administrative changes**

96. There was no change during the year in the number of district charges or of District Registrars; but seven new sub-offices were opened. The temporary sub-office at Kosigi, Bellary district, which had been opened as an experiment, was made permanent and the temporary office at

Adirampatnam in Tanjore district had its trial extended for a further period of one year, and, because of congestion of work, the office of the Joint Sub-Registrar III was separated from the Registrar's office, Salem, and placed in another building. Thus, the number of sub-offices rose from 525 to 533.

In order further to promote the convenience of the public, villages were, in some cases, transferred from one sub-district to another and the itinerating system of registry continued in force.

Registrations

The number of registrations made increased from 1,339,007 to 1,383,039 or by 3·29 per cent. The rise was caused by an increase of 3·17 per cent in the transactions relating to immovable property and of 6·52 per cent under those relating to movable property.

Amongst the causes at work were the increased activities of the co-operative societies and the rise in price of cotton. The increase occurred in all except seven districts (registration), viz., Anantapur, Coimbatore *cum* Nilgiris, Erode, Ganjām, Salem, Tellicherry and Trichinopoly, almost all of which were directly or indirectly affected by a severe cyclone or by floods.

As a matter of interest, it might be noted that amongst the documents registered there was a remarkable case of a Hindu, on the plea of renouncing the world, giving away his daughter aged seven to an Indian Christian for a nominal consideration of Rs. 5. The District Magistrate of the district concerned was of the opinion that the executant could not be prosecuted under the Indian Penal Code.

Value of transactions

The aggregate value of registered transactions rose from Rs. 58 crores to Rs. 61 crores, or by 4·03 per cent. The average value per document rose from Rs. 439 to Rs. 442, and the average fee from Rs. 2-2-10 to Rs. 2 3-0.

Searches and copies

Applications for general searches increased from 72,857 to 82,069 and those for copies from 117,701 to 119,147, and it may be expected that further increases will occur in the future, because of the improved registration indexes which are being gradually introduced.

Co-operative societies

The expansion of the co-operative movement is evidenced by the fact that documents presented for registration by or on behalf of co-operative societies increased from 32,945 to 37,829 and searches from 7,023 to 7,665. The total fees foregone were Rs. 1,56,841 against Rs. 1,38,303 in the previous year. An increase in this class of document was also noticed last year.

Prosecutions

There were 21 prosecutions to be dealt with in the year. Of these, 13 resulted in conviction and 8 had not been disposed of at the end of the year.

Finance

The fees for registering documents rose from Rs. 29·18 lakhs to Rs. 30·26 lakhs and those for searches and copies from Rs. 5·67 lakhs to Rs. 6·16 lakhs.

In consequence of the opening of new offices and of the grant of increments and allowances to officers, the expenditure increased from Rs. 24·43 lakhs to Rs. 25·59 lakhs. The surplus of income over expenditure (including refunds) was Rs. 12·16 lakhs; the surplus in the previous year was Rs. 11·79 lakhs.

**Registered companies**

The Indian Companies Act, 1913

97. At the close of the year, there were 770 companies registered under the Indian Companies Act. This is an increase of 15 companies over the figure for the previous year. Of these 770 companies, 692 had share capital and 78 were without it, and almost half were for the purpose of banking and loan. The number of new registrations was less and the number of companies which ceased to exist was greater than in the previous year. The reason for this is said to be scarcity of money.

Authorized capital

The authorized capital of the 69 new companies registered was Rs. 1·8 crores and it is interesting to note that nine of them, all trading and industrial concerns, with an aggregate authorized capital of over Rs. one crore, were either European or European managed.

Important flotations

The most important flotations during the year were (1) The Associated Publishers (Madras), Limited, with a capital of Rs. 21 lakhs. This company has entered into agreements for purchasing *inter alia* the goodwill of the businesses now

conducted by the Madras Mail, Limited, and Higginbothams, Limited, and certain of the assets of the Associated Printers, Limited; (2) The Trichinopoly Electric Power Company, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 20 lakhs; (3) The Nonsuch Tea Estates, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 17½ lakhs; and (4) The Somasundaram Mills, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 14,40,000.

It is interesting to note that one company, viz., the Southern India Steam Navigation Company, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 12 lakhs, was formed for the purpose of working steamships and other vessels for the conveyance of passengers and goods, especially along the coasts of India and Burma, and that five companies, registered in the districts of Gōdāvari, Rāmnād and Trichinopoly, were formed with the object of supplying electric power for lighting and other purposes.

Private companies

Twenty-four private companies were registered and 16 ceased to exist. The total number of private companies at the end of the year was 156.

Capital

In the previous year, the aggregate authorized capital of the companies registered was Rs. 28·25 crores; in the year under report, it rose to Rs. 29·14 crores. The paid-up capital rose from Rs. 11·13 crores to Rs. 12·34 crores in the year under report. It may be observed that, in a decade, the number of companies has almost doubled and the paid-up capital has more than doubled.

Companies which ceased to exist

The number of companies which ceased to exist was 61. Of these, 7 banking and loan companies and 17 trading and industrial concerns went into voluntary liquidation during the year. The High Court wound up three companies as their affairs were found to be mismanaged. During the year, 34 companies were struck off the register. Of these, 12 were lending and banking companies, 21 trading and industrial concerns and 1 was a miscellaneous company. It is an interesting fact that more than 70 per cent of the companies wound up had been in existence for five years or less. It would seem that many of these companies had at the outset exaggerated their

prospects. At the end of the year, there were 167 companies established outside British India which were registered.

Auditors

At the end of the year there were 44 certificated auditors, of whom 25 possessed unrestricted certificates and 19 restricted certificates.

Finance

The small number of companies registered during the year and the small amount of authorized capital of the new companies caused a reduction in the receipts of registration fees; the amount received was Rs. 25,749 and the expenditure rose from Rs. 29,937 in the previous year to Rs. 38,509 in the year under report.

Provident insurance societies

One of the provident insurance societies in existence in the previous year went into voluntary liquidation and so the number of these societies in the Presidency fell from 12 to 11. No new societies were registered.

Life assurance companies

No new life assurance companies were registered during the year. It is remarkable that since the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, came into force, no company of this nature has been registered. It would seem that the provision in the Act that Rs. 25,000 must be deposited before a life assurance company can be floated has served as an effective safeguard in preventing the growth of mushroom concerns.

Notaries Public

98. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public remained the same (199) as in the preceding year. Operations were confined to 37 stations as against 31 in the previous year. The total number of transactions rose from 215 to 237 with an aggregate value of Rs. 4,24,948 as against Rs. 3,22,023. The increase in the total number of documents dealt with occurred in all districts except eight and was due to fluctuations in exchange, the stringency of the money market and the activities of the newly opened branches of the Imperial Bank of India. The decrease in Negapatam, Madura, Palamcottah, Erode, Tellicherry, Palghat and South Kanara was attributed to the set-back in trade consequent on the unprecedented floods or the stoppage of communications or both. The fall in Tanjore being inappreciable does not call

for any remarks. Fees realized declined from Rs. 926-3-0 to Rs. 846-14-0 due to the decrease in the number of protests, the rate of fees for which is higher than that for noting. The expenditure was Rs. 39-7-0 as against Rs. 55-7-3 in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 819-4-0 was remitted to the treasury during the official year leaving a balance of Rs. 33-2-0 to be remitted in the current year. No office of Notary Public was inspected during the year by the District Judge under rule 4 of the Notarial Rules.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies*]

General

99. The scheme for the re-organization of the upper controlling staff which was referred to last year was sanctioned by Government in the year under report. The scheme was introduced gradually and came into full effect just after the close of the year. According to the new scheme, the Province has been divided into eight circles, each under the charge of a Deputy Registrar. These eight circles are again subdivided into 24 sections, each in charge of an Assistant Registrar. Except in two cases, each section comprises a revenue district. Excluding the post of the Registrar, the entire staff of the department including menials is 524. At the end of the year there were 85 Honorary Assistant Registrars.

The cost of working the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 6·67 lakhs. This represents ·67 per cent of the working capital as compared with ·75 per cent in the previous year.

Expansion

The expansion of existing societies and the development of the movement by the formation of new societies made satisfactory progress during the year. The expansion was very marked in Tanjore, where as many as 205 societies were

registered in the year. This was largely due to the organization of societies for the utilization of Government loans to Ādi-Drāvidas whose houses had been destroyed by the floods of July 1924. In Madras City strenuous efforts have been made during a period of three or four years in regard to the rectification of bad societies with excellent results. In certain districts, such as Anantapur, Rāmnād, Salem, Trichinopoly, the progress made by way of expansion was small.

Number of societies

At the beginning of the year there were 9,785 societies. During the year, 1,434 societies were registered and the registration of 78 societies was cancelled. Thus, there were 11,141 societies on the last day of the year. Of the societies registered during the year, 1,224 were agricultural societies; 166, non-agricultural societies; 40, local supervising unions, and the remaining 4, district federations of local unions.

Membership

At the end of the year there were 690,740 members in 10,810 societies (excluding local supervising unions and federations of unions), which gives an average of 64 members to a society. The total membership of societies at the end of the year represents 1·63 per cent of the population of the Presidency. Of the members, 407,794 were agriculturists, 210,692 were non-agriculturists and the rest were persons partly dependent on agriculture.

Working capital of societies

During the year, the total working capital of all societies increased from Rs. 839·27 lakhs to Rs. 986·57 lakhs. Excluding the investments made by one co-operative society in another, the total working capital employed in the movement was Rs. 508·93 lakhs as compared with Rs. 420·70 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The amount of Rs. 508·93 lakhs was made up as follows:—

| | Lakhs. Rs. |
|---|---|
| Paid-up share capital ... ... ... | 106·12 |
| Deposits of individuals ... ... ... | 350·77 |
| Reserve funds of societies ... ... | 39·50 |
| Loans from Government ... ... | 12·54 |
| Total ... | 508·93 |

As regards repayments by primary societies to central banks, there has been a marked improvement during the year. The percentage of balance to demand fell from 16·98 to 13·82 under principal and from 5·08 to 2·24 under current interest. As regards the repayment by members of primary societies towards their borrowings, the position is slightly worse than in the previous year; but it is to be remembered that the seasonal conditions during the year now under review were on the whole unfavourable.

Central banks

The number of central banks at the end of the year was 32 as against 33 in the previous year. The concession allowing the grant of loans to non-members on the security of their deposits which had already been given to eight central banks was extended to the remaining central banks during the year. During the year, a very substantial addition was made to the sums invested in central banks by local boards and municipalities. The total amount invested by these bodies amounted to about 25 per cent of the total working capital of the central banks.

Supervising unions and federations

At the end of the year there were 313 local supervising unions. The total number of primary societies affiliated to these supervising unions was 8,704 with 539,779 members as against 7,555 with 468,264 members.

The total number of district federations of unions at work at the end of the year was ten. The chief object of these federations is the co-ordination of the work of local unions. Two federations had formulated a scheme for the education of the office-bearers and employees of societies of their affiliated unions. To help these two federations in their educational work, Government had given them a subsidy of Rs. 1,000 each.

The Provincial Union

The Provincial Union raised a fund for the relief of people affected by the floods which occurred in July in the Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. The most noteworthy item of work newly undertaken by the Provincial Union during the year was the arrangement for holding training classes for employees of central banks, urban societies and local unions and for the office-bearers of societies and others.

Progress

The progress made by societies in regard to their trade activities has been steady though slow. The attempts made in certain districts to develop joint sales by organizing a system of granting loans on the pledge of their agricultural produce have achieved some success.

Satisfactory progress was made during the year in the organization of labour on co-operative lines. At the end of the year there were 38 societies of labourers with the object of finding work for their members. During the year these societies secured contracts for Rs. 2·81 lakhs and the work actually completed within the year was valued at Rs. 2·44 lakhs.

An interesting feature of the year's work was the organization of special societies in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts for the reclamation of the lands affected by the abnormal floods in the Cauvery in July 1924. Seven societies were formed for the reclamation of about 1,600 acres of land. In most cases the actual work of reclamation is being carried out by the society as a whole on behalf of the individual members.

Another feature of special interest in the work of the year was the formation of land mortgage banks. The ordinary credit societies are not in a position to grant long-term loans for land improvement, clearing off prior debts, etc. This is due not to lack of money in the movement but to the insufficiency of long-term money; and one of the methods by which it is proposed to attract more long-term money is by the formation of these land-mortgage banks. During the year two such banks were started.

The responsibility for the supervision of societies and their primary audit is gradually being taken over by non-official agencies.

**Working of societies**

Central banks

100. The following table shows some particulars of the working of all central banks (including the Central Urban Bank):—

| | 1923-24. Lakhs. Rs. | 1924-25. Lakhs. Rs. |
|---|---|---|
| Working capital . . ... | 3·87 | 4·55 |
| Deposits ... ... ... | 21·235 | 25·860 |
| Paid-up share capital ... | 3·767 | 4·287 |
| Reserve fund ... ... | 0·861 | 1·099 |

Out of the paid-up share capital of Rs. 36·92 lakhs in district central banks, a sum of Rs. 13·33 lakhs is held by individuals and the remaining Rs. 23·59 lakhs by primary societies. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 13·14 lakhs held by individuals and Rs. 19·27 lakhs held by primary societies. The amount borrowed by all the central banks from outside the movement amounted to Rs. 258·60 lakhs as compared with Rs. 212·35 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The owned capital (i.e., share capital and reserve fund) amounted to 20·83 per cent of the amount borrowed from outside the movement as compared with 21·79 per cent at the end of the previous year. There has been an all-round increase in the paid-up share capital.

The overdrafts allowed by the Imperial Bank of India amounted to Rs. 47·11 lakhs at the end of the year as compared with Rs. 13·91 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

As in the previous year, large sums of money were deposited in central banks by local boards and municipalities, and as security deposits by local fund, abkāri, jail and forest contractors and employees of local boards. At the end of the year, these deposits amounted to Rs. 91·41 lakhs as compared with Rs. 67·39 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

The net divisible profit of all district central banks amounted to Rs. 8·01 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·88 lakhs in the previous year. Every central bank except three can declare the full maximum dividend of 9 per cent out of the net profits for the year.

The percentage of balance to demand in respect of principal due to the district central banks ranged from 1·51 to 46·22. The balance of current interest exceeded 5 per cent of the demand in the case of ten central banks. In nine central banks the balance of arrear interest exceeded 20 per cent of the demand.

Madras Central Urban Bank

The total share capital held by district central banks in the Madras Central Urban Bank was Rs. 5,63,200 at the end of the year as compared with Rs. 4,48,600 at the end of the previous year.

During the year there was considerable expansion in the transactions of the bank. The deposits of individuals rose from Rs. 44·12 lakhs to Rs. 56·80 lakhs and those of local boards and municipalities from Rs. 17·89 lakhs to Rs. 20·85 lakhs. The deposits made by district central banks and primary societies increased from Rs. 14·65 lakhs to Rs. 20·11 lakhs. Deposits of all kinds exceeded Rs. 100 lakhs on the last day of the year.

The bank issued loans to the extent of Rs. 30·80 lakhs during the year. The total loans due to the bank by district central banks at the end of the year was Rs. 81·60 lakhs as against Rs. 78·54 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The indebtedness of primary societies to the bank was further reduced from Rs. ·52 lakh at the beginning of the year to Rs. ·31 lakh at its end.

**Agricultural societies**

101. The number of agricultural societies of all classes increased by 1,166 during the year, as compared with an increase of 1,111 in the previous year. At the end of the year there were 9,472 agricultural societies with 509,536 members.

Agricultural credit societies

Of these, 9,164 were credit societies, of which 33 were on a limited liability basis. The following table shows some particulars of the transactions of agricultural credit societies:—

| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Working capital ... ... | 3,14,97,536 | 3,58,07,324 |
| Paid-up share capital ... | 35,68,127 | 42,81,332 |
| Deposits ... ... ... | 16,69,177 | 16,23,311 |
| Loans from central banks ... | 2,42,30,373 | 2,71,78,311 |
| Loans from Government ... | 3,87,513 | 4,82,264 |

There has been satisfactory progress during the year except in the matter of deposits from individuals. There was a rise in non-members' deposits and a fall in members' deposits. The fall in members' deposits is attributed to the reduction in the rate of interest allowed by societies. There was a substantial increase of share capital in most districts. There was a fall of Rs. 60,852 in the deposits held by old credit societies. The fall was fairly general. In some areas it was due to

unfavourable seasonal conditions, but the general cause was the reduction in the rate of interest allowed on such deposits.

The total divisible profit earned by the credit societies during the year was Rs. 5,72,797 as compared with Rs. 4,71,557 in the previous year. The total loss not yet recouped by the societies on the last day of the year amounted to Rs. 7,01,438 as compared with Rs. 6,33,588. Of the 8,800 agricultural credit societies which were actually working during the year, 4,205 worked at a loss when overdue interest is excluded from the profits. Of these, only 1,302 worked at a real loss amounting in all to Rs. 23,353 (when overdue interest is included in the profits). Of this loss, a sum of Rs. 7,220 is accounted for by 563 societies which had only recently been started. Collections have deteriorated slightly during the year. The percentage of balance to demand has risen steadily from 30·66 in 1920-21 to 41·95 in the year under report. The rate of increase in the percentage of balance to demand is, however, smaller than in the previous two years. All but eight districts showed an increase in overdues under principal. The percentage of balance to demand under current interest has risen from 27·6 to 35·83; but under arrear interest it has fallen slightly as compared with the previous year. But, from the figures available, the amount of overdues by members in this Presidency does not compare unfavourably with the figures in other provinces.

Societies for purchase and sale

At the end of the year, there were 78 agricultural societies for purchase or for purchase and sale. Excluding one society which had not started work on the 30th June 1925, 39 societies earned a divisible profit of Rs. 12,790 and 38 societies incurred a loss of Rs. 48,273. Most of the agricultural trading unions started during the last four or five years have not yet achieved the objects for which they were started.

Societies for production and sale

There were four agricultural societies for production and sale at the end of the year. One of these had a divisible profit of Rs. 3,904, while the remaining three incurred a loss of Rs. 14,340.

Other agricultural societies

At the close of the year there were 226 agricultural societies for other purposes not mentioned above. Of these, 196 societies consist of members of the depressed classes. The main object of these societies is to obtain land for cultivation and for house-sites. The remaining 30 societies are for various other purposes.

**Non-agricultural societies**

Credit societies

102. At the end of the year, there were 1,039 non-agricultural credit societies. Of these, 822 were on the limited liability basis and 217 on the unlimited liability basis. There was very substantial progress all round, as will be seen from the following table:—

| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|---|---|---|
| Number of members ... | 138,530 | 156,121 |
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Paid-up share capital ... | 33,79,065 | 40,02,656 |
| Deposits by individuals. | 58,49,827 | 73,13,167 |
| Working capital ... ... | 1,17,80,415 | 1,45,84,511 |
| Net divisible profit for the year .. ... | 4,62,140 | 5,13,093 |

The percentage of balance to demand is shown in the following table:—

| Year. | Principal. | Interest. Arrear | Interest. Current. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1923-24 ... | 15·99 | 31·97 | 12·28 |
| 1924-25 ... | 16·59 " | 41·48 | 14·52 |

Fifty-one societies (non-agricultural credit) on a thrift basis, consisting of Adi-Andhras, have accumulated members' savings amounting in all to Rs. 15,542. Sixty thrift societies for fishermen and for field labourers on the West Coast have collected a sum of Rs. 36,476 in the shape of share capital. One of the most successful types of non-agricultural credit societies is the society for wage earners of which 246 existed at the end of the year.

Other non agricultural societies

There were 151 non-agricultural societies for purchase, purchase and sale, production, production and sale. These include 85 co-operative stores and 19 weavers' societies. The net divisible profits of the stores decreased lightly, but the working capital increased. The divisible profits of the weavers' societies increased.

There were 76 building societies at the end of the year.

Societies for backward classes

103. The societies for depressed and backward classes under the direct supervision of the Co-operative Department numbered 714 at the end of the year as compared with 545 at the end of the previous year. They had 23,552 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 1·45 lakhs. These societies held at the end of the year Rs. 5,155 in the shape of deposits from members and Rs. 6,28,112 in the shape of loans from central banks.

Depressed classes

At the end of the year there were 1,738 societies composed wholly or mainly of Adi-Drāvidas or Ādi-Āndhras (depressed classes). Of these, 1,024 were in charge of the Labour Department and at the end of the year had 45,785 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 2·38 lakhs. The deposits of members held at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 13,723.

Kallars

There were at the end of the year 194 societies in Madura district, composed almost entirely of Kallars, in charge of the Special Superintendent of Police for Kallars. At the end of the year, these societies had 15,207 members and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 47,621.

Criminal tribes

There were five societies for members of certain criminal tribes. By the end of the year, these societies had 499 members and a paid-up share capital of Rs. 5,388. All these societies have worked at a profit, the net profit earned amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 636.

Scavengers and sweepers

The number of societies exclusively for scavengers and sweepers employed in municipalities or unions was 43 at the close of the year as compared with 35 at the end of the previous year. The number of members in these societies was 4,346 and the paid-up share capital Rs. 32,244.

Agency tracts

At the end of the year there were 20 registered societies in the Agency tracts. The membership rose to 5,888 and the paid-up share capital was Rs. 25,146. In addition, there were also three unregistered societies working on an informal basis.

Reserve fund

104. When the contributions to reserve have been made in accordance with the audit orders on the accounts for the year 1924–25, the total reserve fund of all societies will amount to Rs. 46,84,848

as compared with Rs. 38,34,994 in the previous year. The following table shows the position :—

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Madras Central Urban Bank (Provincial Bank). | 4,36,929 |
| District central banks ... ... ... ... | 8,90,063 |
| Agricultural primary societies ... ... | 22,74,811 |
| Non-agricultural primary societies ... ... | 10,83,045 |
| Total ... | 46,84,848 |

The Madras Central Urban Bank has invested the whole, and two district central banks part, of their reserves in Government paper. The total reserve fund of all societies has increased by 22·16 per cent, while their total working capital has risen by 17·55 per cent during the year.

**Supervision**

105. Of the 10,784 primary societies in the Presidency at the end of the year, 8,704 were affiliated to supervising unions. The amount contributed by societies for their own supervision is increasing year by year. The amount spent in the year by local unions and district federations of unions under this head was equivalent to 32·87 per cent of the amount spent by Government in working the Co-operative Societies Act. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 30·47. Local supervising unions are on the whole progressing satisfactorily.

**Miscellaneous**

106. As compared with the figures of 1923-24 the number of civil suits during the year showed a small increase. There was a substantial increase in the number of arbitration references made in certain districts. It seems probable that the societies have been resorting too readily to arbitration procedure without first exhausting all other methods of bringing pressure to bear upon recalcitrant members.

The 13th Provincial Conference was held on the 21st December 1924. District co-operative conferences were held in certain districts and in addition to these many conferences were held for smaller areas (e.g., taluks or union areas). At many of the co-operative conferences held during the year, instructive lectures were given and demonstrations were held by officers of the Agricultural and Veterinary departments.

## LOCAL BOARDS ADMINISTRATION (1924-25)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards*]

General District boards

107. The number of district boards remained the same (24), but the total number of members sitting on them increased from 878 to 973. All the district boards except the Nilgiri District Board were presided over by non-officials, eleven of whom were elected. At the end of the year, 896 members were taking part in the deliberations of district boards in the Presidency. Of these, 116 were members ex-officio, 215 were nominated by the Government and the remaining 565 were elected by taluk boards, as against 112, 208 and 539, respectively, in the previous year. The district boards held 230 meetings in the course of the year, of which one had to be adjourned for want of a quorum and three for other reasons.

Taluk boards

During the year the Wynaad Taluk Board was abolished and the area under its jurisdiction was placed directly under the Malabar District Board, while two taluk boards in the Kistna district were split up into five. The total number of taluk boards thus increased from 126 to 128. The Presidents of 118 taluk boards were non-officials elected by the boards concerned, and of the remaining boards all except two were presided over by non-officials. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards increased from 2,419 to 2,483. The actual number of members at the end of the year on the taluk boards in the Presidency was 2,364, of whom 578 were nominated and 1,786 elected against 560 and 1,592, respectively, in the previous year. Elections were held for 590 seats, of which 160 were contested and 44 per cent of the registered voters attended the poll against 30·4 in 1923-24. The taluk boards held 1,108 meetings * during the year, of which fifteen proved abortive for want of a quorum and eight meetings had to be adjourned.

Union boards

There were 495 union boards in important villages. The actual number of members on 31st

* Information about meetings held by taluk boards in Anantapur has not yet been received.

March 1925 on the boards was 5,271, of whom 6 were ex-officio, 1,245 nominated and 4,020 elected.

Taxes

Under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as was remarked last year, the levy of land cess at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. An additional cess up to a maximum of 3 pies can be levied for the purposes of the district board and a similar cess for purposes of the taluk boards. Such additional cess was levied by 15 district boards and 78 taluk boards at varying rates. The levy of profession and companies tax is also authorized by the new Local Boards Act. The former was levied during the year by 56 taluk boards and the latter by 31 taluk boards. Considerable difficulty, however, is felt in collecting these taxes and proposals are coming in for the abolition of either or both of them. Tolls on carriages, carts and animals were collected in all districts. House-tax was collected in all unions. The Elementary Education Act, 1920, authorizes the levy of a tax for the expansion of elementary education and 64 taluk boards availed themselves of the power.

**Finance—Receipts**

108. The cash balance under local funds at the beginning of the year was Rs. 80·32 lakhs. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 334·04 lakhs against Rs. 347·88 lakhs in 1923-24. The grants received from provincial funds amounted to Rs. 87·85 lakhs against Rs. 76·52 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 3·49 lakhs was given in aid of the general resources of local boards, Rs. 16·79 lakhs for trunk roads, Rs. 46·19 lakhs for education and Rs. 2·29 lakhs for hospitals and dispensaries.

**Expenditure**

109. The total expenditure of local boards was Rs. 335·29 lakhs against Rs. 322·51 lakhs in 1923-24 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 79·09 lakhs.

Communications

The outlay on communications was Rs. 119·87 lakhs, of which Rs. 33·95 lakhs was met from Government grants, the outlay in the previous year being Rs. 101·28 lakhs and the Government grant Rs. 33·98 lakhs. The length of the new roads constructed was 210 miles and the total mileage maintained at the end of the year was 27,025 miles, of which 2,832 miles were trunk roads,

towards the maintenance of which the Government contribute up to a maximum of Rs. 500 a mile. In 1923–24, 110 miles of new roads were constructed and 23,103 miles, of which 2,830 miles were trunk roads, were maintained.

Education

At the close of the year the local boards maintained a Sanskrit college, 163 secondary schools and 10,947 elementary schools. The total attendance at all the schools was 662,014 pupils. The total expenditure of local boards on education was Rs. 78·99 lakhs, towards which provincial funds contributed Rs. 46·19 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts was 9·16 lakhs. The net outlay from local funds was Rs. 23·64 lakhs.

Medical relief

The number of hospitals maintained by local boards was 108 and the number of dispensaries 366, or 69 more than in the previous year. The cost of their maintenance amounted to Rs. 17·98 lakhs. 22,741 in-patients and 5,100,422 out-patients were treated. The number of vaccinators employed by the local boards was 423. They performed successful vaccinations on 1,124,832 persons or 32·0 per mille of the population against 25·6 per mille in the previous year. The total expenditure on preventive medicine, including sanitation and water-supply, amounted to Rs. 8·03 lakhs as against Rs. 13·85 lakhs in the previous year.

Railways

110. The only district boards which possess open railways are Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevelly. The total length of the lines was 275 miles. The total capital outlay on them was Rs. 153·29 lakhs.

Tanjore

The gross traffic earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway decreased by Rs. 1·07 lakhs to Rs. 14·75 lakhs and the working expenses fell by Rs. 1·02 lakhs to Rs. 9·09 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 0·48 lakh was paid to provincial funds towards the loan advanced by the Government. The profit derived from the working of the railway was Rs. 5·66 lakhs or 8·3 per cent of the capital outlay against 8·5 per cent in 1923–24. Rs. 0·61 lakh was spent on capital works.

Coimbatore

The gross earnings of the Pōdanūr-Pollāchi Railway were Rs. 4·16 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 2 lakhs. The net profit on the

working of the railway thus amounted to Rs. 2·16 lakhs or 12·94 per cent of the capital outlay against 12·98 per cent in 1923-24. The railway cess fund in the district closed with a balance of Rs. 13·78 lakhs.

Guntūr — The gross earnings of the Tenali-Rēpalle Railway in Guntūr were Rs. 2·40 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 1·20 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 1·20 lakhs or 7·8 per cent of the capital outlay against 6·9 per cent in 1923-24. The closing balance of the railway cess fund amounted to Rs. 8·26 lakhs.

Tinnevelly — The gross earnings of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendūr Railway amounted to Rs. 5·12 lakhs, and the working expenses to Rs. 2·67 lakhs. The net earnings of the line were Rs. 2·45 lakhs or 9·6 per cent of the capital outlay against 8·5 per cent in the previous year.

Salem — The gross earnings of the railway owned by the Salem District Board amounted to Rs. 1·56 lakhs and the net earnings to Rs. 0·80 lakh which represented 15·4 per cent of the capital invested. The balance under railway cess funds amounted to Rs. 10·3 lakhs.

Kistna — Information in regard to the working of the Kistna District Board Railway is not available.

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## MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1924-25)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India Municipalities*]

General — 111. The total number of municipal councils remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 80. The total sanctioned number of seats fell from 1,734 to 1,732. The number actually occupied at the end of the year was 1,705. Of the members, 2 were ex-officio, 419 nominated by the Government and the remaining 1,284 elected by the rate-payers. There were elected members in all the municipalities. The proportion of European to Indian members remained stationary. Forty-five municipal councils consisted entirely of Indian members against 48 in the previous year. The councils

held 2,221 meetings, or 62 meetings less than in the previous year, and 222 meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum and another 171 for other reasons. The average attendance of councillors at each meeting was 59 per cent as in the previous year. Of the 464 elections held during the year, 336 were contested by 1,025 candidates and 64·1 per cent of the voters polled.

**Finance—Receipts**

112. The opening balance was Rs. 30·57 lakhs. Current receipts, excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 147·31 lakhs against Rs. 138·43 lakhs in 1923–24. Of the receipts, a sum of Rs. 36·20 lakhs was derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2–2–0 as against the Presidency average of Rs. 2–2–8 in 1923–24. The grants from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 10·78 lakhs against Rs. 10·62 lakhs in 1923–24. Of this, a sum of Rs. 8·57 lakhs was paid for education, Rs. 1·44 lakhs for trunk roads and Rs. 0·50 lakh for medical relief. Loans amounting to Rs. 8·36 lakhs were advanced by Government as against Rs. 7·60 lakhs in the previous year. The Madura Municipal Council borrowed Rs. 3 lakhs for drainage works and the Masulipatam and the Bellary Municipal Councils took loans amounting to Rs. 1·50 lakhs and Rs. 1·01 lakhs, respectively, for water-supply schemes. Several other municipal councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

**Expenditure**

113. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 141·13 lakhs.

**Communications**

The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 21·10 lakhs, of which, a sum of Rs. 13·28 lakhs was spent on the maintenance of roads, and Rs. 5·27 lakhs on lighting.

**Water-supply and drainage**

The Public Works Department had under execution new water-works in four municipal towns, improvements and extensions to existing water-works in three, and drainage schemes in two others. In four towns the municipal staff was carrying out improvements to the water-supply. Land acquisition for the opening of conservancy lanes which forms part of a drainage scheme was in progress in one municipality. One water-supply scheme which was under execution had to

be held in abeyance owing to financial considerations. Work on this has since been resumed. The total expenditure under water-supply and drainage including capital charges was Rs. 15·97 lakhs, of which an amount of Rs. 4·95 lakhs was met from Provincial grants and Rs. 4·96 lakhs from loans advanced by Government.

Medical relief

Municipal councils maintained 56 hospitals and 56 dispensaries. The number of in-patients treated was 27,528 and the number of out-patients 2,312,341. The total cost of medical relief was Rs. 8·09 lakhs. The expenditure under preventive medicine including conservancy was Rs. 2·38 lakhs.

Education

There were 1,277 elementary schools maintained by municipal councils or 20 more than in the previous year. The number of municipal secondary schools increased from 45 to 50. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 12·91 lakhs, of which Rs. 6·85 lakhs was met from Government grants and Rs. 5·41 lakhs from municipal funds. The total expenditure on secondary education was Rs. 7·44 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·72 lakhs was met from Provincial funds, while the net debit to municipal funds was Rs. 1·49 lakhs. The expenditure in 1923-24 under this head was Rs. 7·22 lakhs, Rs. 1·84 lakhs being met from Government grants and Rs. 2·27 lakhs from municipal funds.

Closing balance and debt

The closing balance of the year was Rs. 36·75 lakhs. The public debt outstanding against municipalities rose from Rs. 42·67 lakhs to Rs. 48·09 lakhs.

## MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1924-25)

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

Finance—Receipts

114. The total receipts for the year including the opening balance amounted to Rs. 1,03,67,473 compared with Rs. 93,43,136 in the previous year.

Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 61,69,101 against Rs. 53,95,037 in 1923-24, an

increase of Rs. 7,74,064. Towards this income, municipal taxes contributed Rs. 47,74,016 and municipal fees and miscellaneous receipts Rs. 13,95,085 as against Rs. 39,90,685 and Rs. 14,04,352, respectively, in 1923-24.

Incidence of taxation

The incidence of taxation (including tolls) per head of the population was Rs. 9-1-0 as against Rs. 7-9-2 in the previous year.

Grants and loans

The Corporation received from Government during the year a free grant of Rs. 6,50,000 and a loan of Rs. 6,50,000 for improvement of water-supply and drainage. A loan of Rs. 5,00,000 was also received from Government for the Māmbalam Town Planning scheme.

Debts

The debt at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 146·99 lakhs and the sinking fund relating to the various loans exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments was Rs. 42,95,759, of which Rs. 42,58,400 was in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures, and Rs. 37,359 in cash.

Repayments of Government loans

Payments amounting to Rs. 6,23,007 were made during the year towards the repayment of, and interest on, the Government instalment loans of Rs. 66½ lakhs.

**Works**

115. The total sum expended on works during the year amounted to Rs. 35·42 lakhs as against Rs. 33·94 lakhs in 1923-24. Of this, a sum of Rs. 17·11 lakhs was spent on new works, Rs. 16·34 lakhs on repairs and Rs. 1·97 lakhs on establishment and miscellaneous charges.

The following are some details of the amounts spent on various works

Communications

A sum of Rs. 21,117 was spent during the year on general improvements in the communications of the city and Rs. 7·55 lakhs on repairs against Rs. 6·97 lakhs in the previous year. Over 5·75 miles of unmetalled roads were metalled and 67·75 miles of roads 20 feet wide were re-formed against 50·50 miles last year. The cost of re-forming the roads was Rs. 1,523 per mile as against Rs. 3,518 per mile in 1923-24, the increase being due to laying a large number of roads with 6, 5, 4 and 3 inches of metal. Over 8·25 miles of road were tarred for the first time and more

than 4·375 miles were re-tarred, the total length of tarred roads in the city at the end of the year being more than 32·75 miles.

Buildings

A sum of Rs. 4,26,672 was expended on new buildings and Rs. 48,559 on repairs to buildings during the year as compared with Rs. 5,37,070 and Rs. 56,621 last year.

During the year twelve bathing fountains, a sheep pen in Perambūr and a model cattle yard in Chintādripet were constructed.

A four-chambered incinerator at Ottēri dumping ground and an F.O. latrine for model lines for conservancy coolies were installed.

The carpenter's shop at the workshop was extended.

Improvements were made to the chucklers' hutting ground and to the low lands in R.S. No. 1814/2 of Tondiarpet

The construction of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Tondiarpet, which was in progress last year was nearing completion at the end of the year.

The Corporation decided to undertake the development of the Māmbalam eastern scheme. The eastern extension scheme is 623 acres in extent. Of this, 430 acres have been acquired and handed over to the Corporation. The whole of the Māmbalam area comprising 1,273 acres in extent was brought within municipal limits during the year. Ever since the acquisition, the Corporation was engaged in preparing plans, demarcating the survey numbers, roads, etc.

Drainage

A sum of Rs. 7·13 lakhs was expended on new drainage works during the year and Rs. 4·22 lakhs on maintenance of existing works. Satisfactory progress with those drainage works which are urgently required was made and 191 house connexions to the sewers were completed during the year.

Water-supply

Expenditure on new works for water-supply amounted to Rs. 5·41 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·80 lakhs last year, while a sum of Rs. 3·47 lakhs was spent on maintenance work during the year. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 5,124·8 million gallons which is equivalent

to nearly 26·7 gallons per head per day. The maximum average daily consumption per head in any month was 33·7 gallons and the minimum was 19·6 gallons.

During the year, the staff employed to detect waste of water inspected 14,052 houses and brought to notice as many as 1,578 defects in the service pipes. Four hundred and ninety-eight new services were laid by licensed plumbers, 1,987 were repaired, renewed, cleaned, altered or extended in the year.

The total number of house service connexions in the city on 31st March 1925 was 32,999 and there were 1,953 meters on house services in use on 31st March 1925. Metering is being extended as rapidly as possible and as fast as funds will allow.

During the year, 8 furlongs 45 yards and 2 feet of pipes were removed, cleaned and relaid and 3 furlongs 88 yards of new mains were laid as against 1 mile 5 furlongs 75 yards in the previous year. Seventeen valves, 231 stop cocks, 15 hydrants and 493 meters were also fixed.

Ninety-three fountains, 1 cattle trough and 13 bathing fountains were erected and 1 fountain, 2 cattle troughs and 4 bathing fountains were removed during the year.

At the end of the year, there were 2,106 fountains, 76 cattle troughs and 56 bathing fountains.

The quantity of water taken out of Red Hills lake during the year was 858,069,963 c.ft. as against 1,051,532,577 c.ft. in the previous year. On 1st April 1924 the level of the Red Hills lake stood at 58·51 and continued to fall steadily till it reached 51·80 on 19th September 1924.

**Education**

116. A sum of Rs. 2,38,800 was paid from Corporation funds as a contribution towards the Education fund. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 2·23 lakhs against Rs. 1·87 lakhs last year.

Three schools were opened during the year in buildings constructed by the Corporation and five more schools were started in rented buildings. One private school for girls was taken over with the building, furniture, etc., as a gift. Thus the total number of schools under the control of the

Corporation rose from 42 to 51. Night schools are held in 27 of the Corporation schools, 10 of which are provided with electric lights.

The number of pupils on the rolls of the Corporation schools was 11,607 (8,442 boys and 3,165 girls) on 31st March 1925 as compared with 8,727 (6,731 boys and 1,996 girls) on the last day of the previous year. The average attendance also kept pace with the increase in strength and stood at 176 for a school and 8,969 for all the schools against 141 and 5,918, respectively, in the previous year.

There were 245 male teachers and 44 female teachers employed on 31st March 1925 and all of them were qualified.

Three special medical inspectors, of whom one is a female, were appointed for medical inspection of boys and girls and their suggestions have been acted upon.

Parents' associations were formed in 34 of the Corporation schools. Several meetings were held during the year and various suggestions were made which were carried out as far as possible. The associations have been very helpful in improving the work and progress of the Corporation schools.

**Sanitation and medical services**

117. Expenditure on sanitation amounted to Rs. 8·34 lakhs, compared with Rs. 8·10 lakhs last year.

Contributions amounting to Rs. 33,354 were paid to hospitals and dispensaries. The maintenance of the Corporation hospitals cost Rs. 2·33 lakhs against Rs. 2·09 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of patients treated was 487,877 as compared with 312,283 last year.

Vaccination

The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths was Rs. 45,316 against Rs. 47,423 last year.

The total number of persons vaccinated was 36,897 as compared with 36,629 in the previous year.

Births

There were 23,275 births registered during the year, out of which the number of males was 11,765 and of females 11,510.

Deaths

The number of deaths registered during the year was 21,960, representing a crude death-rate of 41·7 per mille against 37·8 in the previous year.

Five insanitary tanks were cleaned during the year and the anti-malarial drains also were systematically cleaned by the special staff employed for the purpose. In addition to this, prickly-pear and rank vegetation were removed in some places. Anti-malarial operations

118. On 31st March 1925, there were 8,297 electric lights in use in the city as against 6,421 last year. Expenditure under this head was Rs. 3·34 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 1·90 lakhs was spent on maintenance. Miscellaneous Lighting

Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 39,884 against Rs. 37,879 in the previous year. Public parks

The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 34,396, compared with Rs. 41,810 last year. There were 76 fire calls during the year as against 85 in the previous year; but only in 22 cases was there any work for the engines. Fire engines

## MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1924–25)

119. On the 31st March 1925 the strength of the twelve Auxiliary Force units in Madras District (Military) was 6,145. A new sub-unit was formed in the Cochin-Alleppey area and was named the Cochin Light Motor Boat Patrol. Another new sub-unit, a Cadet Platoon, numbering 25, all ranks, was formed at St. Joseph's College, Coonoor. The designations of the following units have been changed:— Military Auxiliary Force

| Old designation. | New designation. |
|---|---|
| 2nd (Madras) Brigade, R.A. ... | 2nd (Madras) Field Brigade, R.A. |
| No. 5 (Madras) Field Coy., R.E. | No. 5 (Madras) Signal Coy., R.E. |
| No. 14 (Bangalore) Battery, R.A. | No. 14 (Bangalore) Field Battery, R.A. |

The Santaveri and Sallebile Light Motor Patrol of No. 1 (C. & M.) Coy., M.G. Corps, A.F. (I), were combined and re-named the Saklaspur Light Motor

Patrol. The Salem Light Motor Patrol was disbanded in December 1924 owing to lack of members. Over 65 per cent of A.F. (I) personnel attended the annual camps held in 1924-25. The Internal Security and Defence Post schemes were rehearsed in conjunction with regular troops. The members of the Cannanore and Tellicherry detachments (Nilgiri-Malabar Battalion, A.F. (I), took part in a combined Naval and Military exercise in December 1924 at Cannanore. Several of the units had representatives and teams at the S.I.R.A. meeting. The Bangalore cup was again won by an A.F. (I) unit, and in the annual match, Regulars *versus* A.F. (I), the latter were again successful, winning the event by 5 points.

Indian Territorial Force

The strength of the five Indian Territorial Force units in the district amounted to 3,203 all ranks. During the year, further improvement was made in promoting efficiency, by the introduction of Platoon Commanders' and N.C.Os.' courses. The above courses were held in addition to the usual Battalion and Recruits' training. Both these courses and the annual training of the Indian Territorial Force were very successful.

## MARINE (1924-25)

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust, the Tuticorin Port Trust, the Tuticorin Port Fund and the Madras Port Department for the year 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India — Port Trusts*]

**Madras Port Trust**

General

120. During the year under report records have been established in the gross receipts of the harbour undertaking, the tonnage of imports, the tonnage of exports and the total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the harbour.

Finance

The gross receipts of the harbour undertaking amounted to Rs. 33,93,121, an increase of Rs. 4,08,836 over the receipts of the previous year. The expansion of trade has accounted for Rs. 3,71,000 of the above increase. The working

expenses, inclusive of interest on capital and amortization, amounted to Rs. 28,50,417 as compared with Rs. 28,19,703 in 1923-24 and Rs. 11,39,616 in 1913–14. The net result of the working for the year has been a surplus of Rs. 5,42,704 as compared with Rs 1,64,582 in the previous year. A sinking fund for repaying the sterling loan of £330,000 raised in the London market in 1923 has been opened and the total payments made to the fund up to the end of the year under report amounted to Rs. 99,792. The outstanding amount of loans due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,43,93,072 at the close of the year.

Traffic

The total imports and exports during the year amounted to 1,117,221 tons, an increase of 13·45 per cent over the previous year. In 1923-24 the tonnage of exports was the largest on record, 225,137 tons, and, as has been said above, a new record, viz., 296,615 tons, has been established in the year now under report. This increase was largely due to the expansion of the groundnut trade. Of the total tonnage of exports and imports, 1,112,777 tons were sea-borne against 963,106 tons in 1923-24. The difference between the total traffic and the quantity sea-borne consisted almost entirely of rail-borne coal amounting to 3,118 tons.

The total net registered tonnage of vessels which entered the harbour increased from 1,983,734 to 2,190,111, a record.

Imports

Some details of the trade at the port are given below.

The imports of chemicals, glassware, paper and stationery were the largest on record. The imports of hardware, liquors, metals, kerosene oil, fuel and other mineral oil, raw skins, sugar, unmanufactured tobacco, cement, matches, motor cars and motor cycles increased. There was also a large increase in the import of rice (from 60,535 to 83,787 tons) due to the fact that there was a heavy demand on account of partial failure of crops due to floods in the southern portion of the Presidency. The imports of machinery, railway materials and food-grains other than rice decreased. Under textiles, the imports of raw cotton have decreased

(though on the other hand imports of yarn, piece-goods and gunnies have increased). The imports of teak from Burma do not show much variation as compared with the previous year. There was practically no importation of Australian timber during the year. The imports of other timber have fallen by 48 per cent.

Exports

Shipments of groundnuts formed 50 per cent of the total export trade of the port and were the largest on record. The traffic in this commodity increased by 72·34 per cent, the amount shipped being 148,204 tons against 85,996 tons in the previous year. The increase was due to good crops and also to some extent to the diversion of traffic from the Coimbatore and Salem districts to Madras harbour owing to floods on the South Indian Railway. Europe took 93·35 per cent of the total quantity shipped. Exports of bone manures, tanned hides and skins, onions and other vegetables, oil-cake, piece-goods, raw and manufactured tobacco increased. The shipment of manganese practically ceased, but more magnesite and chrome ore were shipped than in the previous year. Shipments of raw hides and skins, jaggery and vegetable oil decreased. A new development of the export trade during the year was the shipment of 1,167 tons of acetate of lime by Messrs. Best & Co.

Works

Various works were executed during the year.

The laying of the oil-fuel pipe line along the west quay was completed on the 18th July 1924 and ships can now take oil fuel at all the four west quay berths.

The preliminary work in connexion with the new deep-water quay estimated to cost Rs. 12 lakhs was practically finished during the year.

The work of construction of a new breakwater estimated to cost Rs. 9 lakhs was continued. This breakwater, even in its incomplete state, has had the effect of decreasing materially the maintenance dredging required within the harbour, more particularly at the east quay.

Ferro-concrete electric crane tracks on No. 2 berth, west quay, were completed during the year.

In connexion with the new fresh-water reservoir, the ferro-concrete tower for the high-level tank was completed, and the installation brought into use during the year.

All the four berths for the installation of an oil-fuel pipe line on the west quay were completed and were in regular use for bunkering vessels.

**Tuticorin Port Trust**

121. It was remarked in last year's report that Tuticorin had been constituted a separate port with effect from 1st January 1924, but in the report Tuticorin was considered along with the other minor ports. The figures for minor ports for the year 1924-25 exclude Tuticorin for which separate figures have been furnished. Just as the trade at the port of Madras increased during the year, so the trade at Tuticorin and the minor ports was greater than in the previous year.

Administration

The Tuticorin Port Trust Act was finally passed on 27th May 1924 and the number of trustees was fixed at not less than 9 or more than 13, including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The number of trustees was later fixed by Government at 11. At the beginning of the year the port was administered by a Port Conservancy Board under the control of Government. This Board gave place to the Port Trust and ceased to exist from 17th December 1924, when the provisions of the Tuticorin Port Trust Act were fully brought into force.

Finance

The total revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 13·16 lakhs and the charges to Rs. 8·55 lakhs. The dues on imports and exports amounted to Rs. 3,40,396.

Trade

The total trade in 1924-25 at Tuticorin amounted to Rs. 1,351·76 lakhs, the figure for the previous year being Rs. 1,285·23 lakhs. This port had more trade than any other port in the Presidency except Madras and accounted for 14·27 per cent of the whole trade of the Presidency.

The principal imports were rice, food-grains, coal, kerosene oil, iron works and machinery, cement, timber and raw silk.

Exports consisted chiefly of raw cotton, oil-cakes, cotton twist and yarn, cattle food, grain,

pulses and flour, spices, condiments, tea and rubber.

Steam and sailing vessels amounting to 986,394 tons entered and vessels amounting to 987,767 tons cleared during the year.

**Minor ports**

122. In 1923-24 the total trade of minor ports, excluding Tuticorin, was Rs. 3,626·46 lakhs and has increased in the year under report to Rs. 3,830·41 lakhs.

The following are the six chief minor ports arranged according to the value of trade :—Cochin, Calicut, Cocanada, Mangalore, Cuddalore, Negapatam.

Civil officers, the Public Works Department and the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief's Department executed works costing Rs. 5·1 lakhs during the year.

The receipts of Port and Marine Funds amounted to Rs. 24 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 15·85 lakhs. The closing balances consisted of Rs. 13·31 lakhs in cash and Rs. 28·67 lakhs in Government securities.

The port of Vizagapatam was withdrawn from the eastern group of ports and made a separate port with effect from the 1st April 1925.

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## Mortality from Wild Animals and Snakes (1924)

[*Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes, and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the year 1924*]

**Mortality**

Wild animals

123. The number of persons killed by wild animals during 1924 was 641 against 851 in 1923 and 901 in 1922. The largest number of deaths, chiefly from tigers, occurred in Vizagapatam and Ganjâm districts.

Snakes

The number of persons who died from snake bite was 1,099, a slight reduction on the previous year's figure, which was 1,150 ; as in the previous year, the largest number of deaths was in Tanjore.

124. During the year, 548 wild animals, of which 70 were tigers and 430 were classed as leopards, panthers or cheetahs, were destroyed. The number destroyed in 1923 was 1,725. Rewards amounting to Rs. 10,826 were paid. **Rewards**

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## MISCELLANEOUS (1924)

[*Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts, Return of sulphur licences in force during the year 1924*]

125. The revised rules under the Indian Arms Act came into force on the 1st January 1924 and the returns now dealt with are for the first year's working under the new rules. The number of licences in force during the year was 68,981 as compared with 62,223 in 1923 and 58,786 in 1922. Almost all the districts contributed to the increase in the year under report, the chief being North Arcot (640), Madura (358), Malabar (1,845), Salem (494 and Tinnevelly (310). The following statement shows the different kinds of arms for which licences were in force during the last three years :— **Arms Act**

| Year. | Rifled arms. | | | Smooth-bore guns. | | | | Revolvers. | Pistols. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Magazine. | Double barrelled. | Single barrelled. | D.B. B.L. | S.B. B.L. | D.B. M.L. | S.B. M.L. | | |
| 1922 ... | 93 | 371 | 1,106 | 4,377 | 9,002 | 3,287 | 35,528 | 4,090 | 570 |
| 1923 ... | 115 | 221 | 1,369 | 4,673 | 10,619 | 3,171 | 38,277 | 3,847 | 567 |
| 1924 ... | 211 | 262 | 1,523 | 5,361 | 12,347 | 3,517 | 39,924 | 4,204 | 678 |

Of the 68,981 licences, 52,253, as against 46,557 in 1923, were for possession of arms and ammunition for going armed for sport, protection or display, and 15,561 as against 14,634 in 1923 were for the possession of arms and ammunition for the destruction of wild animals that do injury to crops or cattle.

Explosives

The number of licences under the Explosives Act granted during the last three years is exhibited below:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1922 ... ... ... ... ... | 8,289 |
| 1923 ... ... ... ... ... | 9,731 |
| 1924 ... ... ... ... ... | 14,516 |

The increase in the year under report was chiefly in the districts of Coimbatore (2,604), Madura (1,077) and Trichinopoly (475). The increase in the above three districts was due to the large number of licences issued for the possession of gunpowder and other explosives required for blasting purposes.

Prosecutions

The following table shows the number of prosecutions instituted under the Arms and Explosives Acts and the number of those which resulted in conviction and the percentage of such convictions during the last four years:—

| | Number of prosecutions | | Percentage of convictions |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Instituted. | Resulted in conviction. | |
| 1921 | 534 | 448 | 83 |
| 1922 .. | 524 | 449 | 86 |
| 1923 . | 553 | 455 | 82 |
| 1924 .. | 581 | 502 | 86 |

Salem had more convictions than any other district.

Sulphur

There was a slight increase in the number of sulphur licences issued, but the aggregate quantity for which licences were issued has fallen from 1,076 tons in 1923 to 905 tons in the year under report.

Illicit manufacture of firearms

No illicit manufacture of firearms was detected in any part of the Presidency.

# CHAPTER IV

## PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

### AGRICULTURE (1924–25)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture (G.O. No. 1377, Development dated 19th September 1925); Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

**General**

126. The unfavourable seasonal conditions of the year under report to some extent interfered with the normal activities of the Agricultural Department in the greater part of the Presidency, but, in spite of disastrous floods on the East and West Coasts at one period and deficiency of rainfall or water-supply at another, steady progress was made in most branches of work.

**Agricultural education**

127. At the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, two courses of study were conducted during the year; the Certificate course which is a two-year course and the Degree course which is a three-year course leading to the degree of B.Sc. Agr. The Certificate course has now been abandoned and no new students were admitted during the year. The nine students who were admitted in the previous year completed their course in the year under report and all passed the examination. As remarked last year, there is a proposal to replace this Certificate course by a new Intermediate course. There was a considerable fall from 68 in the previous year to 49) in the number of applicants for the Degree course. But, whereas in the previous year only 7 of the 20 selected candidates joined, and of these 7, two resigned early in the session, in the year under report, 18 out of the 20 selected for the class joined and took the course during the year. It was remarked in last year's report that the results of the Degree examination held in 1923

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(March-April) were disappointing as only 8 students, out of 17 who appeared, passed. In the examination held in April 1924, all the 8 students who appeared for the final examination passed. At the examination held in March-April 1925, 11 out of the 12 students who appeared for the final examination passed.

Middle schools and classes for labourers

There are two agricultural middle schools, one at Talipparamba and one at Anakāpalle. The primary object of these schools is to provide, for the sons of cultivators, a course of instruction in the principles of agriculture. The intention is that the persons trained shall return to cultivate the land so that, eventually, methods of cultivation will improve. But, of the 38 persons who have passed out of these schools from the year 1922–23 onwards, only 10 are known to have returned to the land and 21 are known to be idle, of whom 13 definitely hope to get employment under Government. The value of a practical training in improved methods of agriculture does not yet appear to be appreciated. But the Government have not considered that the comparative failure of these schools over the short period for which they have been working is a sufficient reason to discontinue the experiment. Unless facilities for this type of education are provided the public cannot be trained to take an interest in improved methods. Classes for juvenile and adult labourers continued to be held at the agricultural stations at Coimbatore, Pālūr and Anakāpalle. The results during the year were satisfactory.

Agricultural research and experiments

128. Research work on the two principal crops, paddy and cotton, went on as usual, in spite of the unfavourable character of the season at many of the centres.

Paddy

The research on paddy breeding followed two main lines, (1) the isolation and test of varieties of paddy with a view to supply cultivators with seed from the most successful strains, (2) the study of the inherited characteristics of various strains with the object of securing a greater improvement in the crop than is possible by following the selection described in (1). At Coimbatore 20,700 lb.

and at Āduturai 76,800 lb. of seed were distributed. These figures are, respectively, about 21 per cent and 7 per cent greater than those for the previous year. Experiments in manuring were carried out at various centres. At Sāmalkōta (East Gōdāvari district), the results indicated that bonemeal mixed with green leaf forms a good manure for the poorer land in the deltaic area. The manure used by ryots in the neighbourhood of Nandyāl (Kurnool district) is green leaf mixed with cattle manure. Experiments made at this station appear to show that a mixture of groundnut cake and bonemeal is an adequate substitute. At Sāmalkōta, an experiment was made to test the difference between a crop grown from seedlings sown thickly and a crop grown from seedlings sown thinly. The results for three years go to show that thin sowing is the better method. At Nandyāl an experiment was made to compare the results from seedlings planted in bunches and seedlings planted singly. The experiment carried out over a period of three years has given a result slightly in favour of single planting.

Cotton

Research at various stations on the breeding of the cotton plant was on the same lines as that on paddy breeding. The work at Coimbatore was greatly hampered by the ravages of insects, particularly the stem weevil. This insect caused more damage in the year under report than in any previous year. It seems to be getting gradually more formidable, both in the area affected and in intensity of attack. Experiments to find a suitable manure for the cotton plant were made at several places.

Millet, sugarcane, etc., crops

Similar researches were made on the breeding and manuring of millets, sugarcane, coconut, groundnut, potatoes, tobacco and chillies. The practice of spraying rubber trees with Bordeaux mixture to prevent secondary leaf-fall has been very successful and has spread.

Fruit culture

The season at Coonoor Pomological Station was satisfactory on the whole, but a large part of the crop of plums was spoiled by fruit fly, figs did not do so well as was anticipated and Cape gooseberries did not thrive. The demand

for young fruit trees from this station was poor. A record crop of mangosteens was obtained at Burliar Experimental Fruit Gardens. The season was not so satisfactory at Kallar Experimental Fruit Gardens. Much damage was done by the abnormal rainfall, but there were good crops of oranges and mangoes; unfortunately fruit fly attacked and spoilt the majority of the mangoes.

**Livestock**

129. In the Livestock section, the acquisition by the department of the Hosūr Remount Depot which comprises some 1,600 acres of excellent pasture and buildings sufficient to house nearly a thousand head of stock will enable investigations into cattle breeding and dairying to be conducted on a scale proportionate to their importance. The depot was taken over on 1st September 1924 and is now called the "Central Cattle Farm, Hosūr." The policy being followed is to keep a supply of good milking cows with their calves and the necessary bulls at Coimbatore, transferring all young stock after they have been weaned, and dry cows to Hosūr.

**Scientific research and experiments**

130. The number of samples sent to the Agricultural Chemist for analysis has shown a steady increase from year to year; in the year under report it was 1,441 as against 1,051 in the previous year. The survey of soils in North Malabar was completed. Various experiments were made on manures. It was found that calcium cyanamide in conjunction with soluble phosphates will definitely increase the yield of crop; but the price of this manure is against its extensive use. Superphosphate used alone was found to have a bad effect on yield, but experiments with Trichinopoly phosphate and tetra phosphate gave encouraging results. It was found that if sulphur is mixed with farmyard manure, no loss of nitrogen from the manure will occur; but the quantity of sulphur used in the experiment was large. Tests carried out showed that groundnut cake is a more satisfactory manure than castor oil-cake, pungam oil-cake, ganja oil-cake, fish guano or hornmeal. Research was made to find suitable manures for coconuts, plantains and cotton. Analysis of

different parts of these plants at different stages of growth seemed to show that potash and phosphoric acid for coconuts, potash and lime for plantains, and nitrogen, lime potash and phosphoric acid for cotton are the foods most necessary to these plants.

**Aids to the public**

131. Cambodia cotton in certain parts of the Presidency suffers from pests. Experience in all the principal cotton-growing countries has shown that the only practicable remedy is to uproot the plants on a fixed date and keep the land completely clear for a minimum period of two months. To ensure this, the Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act was applied during the year to five taluks in the Salem district, five taluks in the Trichinopoly district, the whole of the Madura district and the whole of the Coimbatore district except the Kollegal taluk. The time for uprooting the plants was fixed at the 1st September, but the operations dragged on till much later, and the result, as has been the case in previous years also, was that the object in uprooting the plants was largely defeated. However, a Bill to amend the Act was passed in the March Session (1925) of the Legislative Council with a view to strengthen the provisions of the Act.

Operations against disease

Operations under the Pest Act to combat the coconut caterpillar were continued in the Mangalore taluk, South Kanara district. Owing to the steady spread of the pest, the area notified was extended so as to cover the whole of the taluk.

An outbreak of the mahali disease of arecanuts was reported from a village in South Kanara and steps were taken to deal with it. Both in that district and in South Malabar, where the disease also occurred, the staff of the Agricultural Department were greatly assisted in their work by co-operative societies.

As in the previous year, the provisions of the Pest Act were applied to overcome palm disease in the Northern Circars.

The practice of treating cholam seeds with copper sulphate against smut has been fairly well established in the Bellary and Kurnool districts.

Demonstration work

The demonstration work of the department consisted mainly in popularizing improved varieties of seed and in introducing economic methods of planting and better systems of manuring the land. The propagation of improved varieties of sugarcane on an adequate scale must await the opening of a cane-breeding station in the Vizagapatam district which, according to the present programme, will take place in 1926–27, but considerable success was obtained in introducing better appliances for the extraction of juice and the preparation of jaggery. As regards paddy, the principal crop of the Presidency, the system of economic planting, which both decreases the quantity of seed required and increases the yield per acre, and the system of fertilization of the land by the cultivation of green-manure crops are now well established. Work for the improvement of cotton, the second most important crop on the East Coast, proceeded on the usual lines and consisted mainly in the production and distribution of good seed and in the demonstration of the advantages of drill cultivation. The efforts of the department to improve the quality of cotton in the three main cotton-growing areas of the Presidency have so far been hampered and to some extent neutralized by the importation of inferior sorts for purposes of adulteration in ginneries and presses. The Cotton Transport Act, which has recently been made applicable to this Presidency, by restricting the movement of cotton in three protected areas, will lessen opportunities for the intentional or accidental admixture of seed and will assist the cultivator of Cambodia and other superior varieties of cotton to realize a better price for his produce.

Publications and statistics

132. The department published a number of pamphlets, a Year Book, the Villagers' Calendar, Monthly Digest and various papers. The usual reports and returns were issued during the year and press summaries were also published in the newspapers.

The areas estimated in the crop forecasts in 1923-24 differed from the actuals by 0·1 to 3·4 per cent.

133. The Provincial Cotton Committee was reconstituted in the year and now consists of three officials and six non-officials. Two meetings were held during the year. The working of the Pest Act and the application of the Cotton Transport Act to the principal cotton tracts in Madras were the most important subjects discussed.

There was considerable advance in the sales of improved agricultural implements and in the demand for spare parts, which shows that the ploughs and other implements supplied in previous years have been found to be of real practical use.

A noteworthy feature of the year was the increasingly close liason between the Agricultural and Co-operative departments.

Finance

134. The receipts and expenditure for the year under report and the corresponding figures for the previous year are exhibited in the following table:—

| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Expenditure ... ... ... | 14,47,949 | 13,72,179 |
| Receipts ... ... ... | 3,54,655 | 2,51,500 |
| Net expenditure ... ... | 10,93,294 | 11,20,679 |

## CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

[*Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year 1924-25*]

General

135. The establishment of the Civil Veterinary Department during the year consisted of a Chief Superintendent, five circle officers and 192 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons. The work of the department is carried out by the staff at fixed hospitals and dispensaries and by certain Assistant Surgeons who tour the country in their charge and give the veterinary relief necessary. At the end of the year there were 67 such Government veterinary institutions (excluding those at the Madras Veterinary College and the Agricultural Farm, Coimbatore) and there were 78 touring Assistant Surgeons. During the year, four new

dispensaries had been opened and five new touring posts created. Government have sanctioned the construction of buildings for the veterinary hospitals at Adōni and Tiruppūr, and in-patient wards at the Veterinary Hospital, Coonoor.

**Cases treated at hospitals**

136. Excluding those at the Madras Veterinary College Hospital, the number of cases treated and castrations performed during the year at the various institutions was 96,740 as against 85,089 in the previous year. The number of castrations was 306 more than in the previous year. A large majority of the institutions have shown an increase in attendance.

It may be remarked that all district boards except three have exempted persons bringing animals for treatment at veterinary institutions from payment of tolls.

**Cases treated by itinerating staff**

137. The work done by the touring Assistant Surgeons has shown a very considerable increase. The following table gives the figures: -

| Year. | Inoculations. | Contagious diseases treated. | Non-contagious cases treated. | Castrations. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1923-24 . | 18,540 | 6,325 | 33,705 | 6,844 |
| 1924-25 ... | 29,269 | 31,616 | 38,206 | 8,005 |

**Contagious diseases**

Rinderpest

138. There has been an increase in the mortality of animals from contagious diseases, the total number of deaths reported being 29,654 as against 23,134 in the previous year. The increase was chiefly due to outbreaks of rinderpest. The districts affected were Kurnool, Ganjām, Kistna, Cuddapah and South Kanara. There was little opposition to compulsory inoculation, which was enforced in certain places. The department performed 10,216 inoculations by the "serum alone" method in 105 outbreaks of this disease and 212 animals were protected against the disease by the "serum simultaneous" method, without a casualty.

**Other contagious diseases**

139. Amongst other diseases for which the department performed inoculations were *hæmorrhagic septicæmia*, *anthrax*, *black-quarter* and *foot-*

*and-mouth disease*. The mortality from *hæmorrhagic septicæmia* and *black-quarter* was less, and that from *anthrax* greater, than in the previous year.

Miscellaneous

140. The staff conducted post-mortem examinations in thirty cases of suspected criminal poisoning and examined 166 animals for malicious injury. Thirty cases were sent to the Chemical Examiner who detected poison in 24 cases. The number of cases prosecuted was 23.

The number of convictions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act was 4,704.

The Madras Cattle Diseases Act was enforced at all important cattle fairs.

The department published a leaflet on black-quarter during the year.

Veterinary College and Hospital

141. The total number of students in the Veterinary College at the end of the year was 74. During the year, five of the students who had graduated in 1923 and 1924 were provided with appointments in the department. 1,722 specimens were received and examined in the college laboratory. In addition, specimens were examined for different diseases. The number of cases treated at the college hospital was 2,591. The shoeing forge attached to the college made a profit of Rs. 1,270. The Post-graduate course held at the college was attended by six Assistant Surgeons of the department, one from the Civil Veterinary Department, Bihar and Orissa, and a private student from the Federated Malay States.

Finance

142. The receipts from the hospital and fees from the college amounted to Rs. 13,437 and expenditure to Rs. 1,17,776.

The total provincial expenditure of the department, excluding veterinary instruction, amounted to Rs. 4·42 lakhs as against Rs. 4·40 lakhs in the previous year.

## WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1334—1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1334; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

South-west monsoon

143. The south-west monsoon commenced early on the West Coast and the Hills and gave heavy and almost continuous rainfall till the 7th September, especially from the 15th to 25th July when there was one of the heaviest downpours on record accompanied by cyclonic winds. The rainfall was also heavy in portions of Coimbatore, Madura, and Tinnevelly, adjoining the Ghats. The Circars had good rains in August and September and freshes came copiously down the rivers from July onwards. In most of the other districts, the monsoon was late and the rainfall weak and ill-distributed till the middle of September. Rains were received in the first week of July and the third week of August, but it was only after the heavy rainfall of September that tanks received sufficient supplies except in parts of the Central districts and the South.

Floods

The excessive rains in the Western Ghats in July caused considerable damage to the tea estates on the Hills. Unprecedented floods came down the rivers of the West Coast and the Cauvery and its tributaries, the Bhavāni and the Noyal, and the Coleroon. These floods seriously damaged communications and irrigation works, dislocated railway traffic for about a month, washed away houses, crops, and fodder stacks and silted up some thousands of acres of wet land in the affected portions of Malabar, Trichinopoly, and Tanjore, rendering it unfit for cultivation. Government gave timely relief to the distressed people by granting loans freely at the concessional rate of 4 per cent interest for the reconstruction of houses and the reclamation of land. The distress was also relieved by private organizations like the Servants of India Society and the Madras Central Flood Relief Committee. Floods in the Sarvasiddhi

taluk of Vizagapatam district in September damaged standing crops and silted up lands near rivers.

Sowings of early crops were generally satisfactory, especially in the Deccan and on wet land in the Circars and Nellore. Sowings of wet crops in the Cauvery delta were restricted owing to the floods. Early crops gave good yield except in the flooded areas where yield was low. On the whole, the south-west monsoon was favourable except in Tanjore and Malabar. Crops

144. The north-east monsoon was late and burst on the Madras coast only in the last week of October. There was a good amount of rain in the first fortnight of November, except in Bellary, Tanjore, and Tinnevelly. The coastal tracts of Ganjām experienced cyclonic weather in the third week of the month similar to that at the same time in the previous year. The paddy crop in low-lying land was affected, several coconut and plantain topes were damaged and many huts blown down. A sum of about Rs. 15,000 was disbursed as takkavi loans for replanting the topes. The free grant of timber by Government and the distribution of money by the Madras Central Flood Relief Committee, the Taluk Board, Berhampur, and other agencies enabled the poor to rebuild their huts. There was little or no rainfall in December. North-east monsoon

The area under late crops was restricted in the Deccan, the Central districts, and the South. The area sown elsewhere was normal. The yield of the main paddy crop in the Circars was better than in most recent years. The yield of the *mungari* or early crops in the Deccan was satisfactory. Groundnut was harvested in fine weather and the yield was normal. Crops

On the whole, the north-east monsoon was favourable only in the Circars and Nellore. It was inadequate in the other districts, especially in North Arcot, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, and the non-Periyār area of Madura.

145. There was some rain from the 12th to the 14th January in Chingleput, South Arcot, the South and the Hills, and again from the 11th to Rainfall later in the season

20th March in these districts and in Coimbatore and the West Coast. The March rains stained the first pickings of cotton to some extent, but benefited late cotton and gingelly.

There were fair showers in the second half of April in the Circars, Salem, Coimbatore, Madura, West Coast and the Hills, and good showers in the first three weeks of May in most districts. A cyclone on the 16th May caused some damage in the Razole taluk of East Gōdāvari and mortality among cattle in the coastal villages of Kistna and Guntūr. There was some rain on the West Coast after the 27th May.

**Character of the season**

146. Unlike the previous year, the year under report was generally favourable to agriculture in many districts in spite of floods and cyclones. The season was very favourable in the Circars, Nellore, and the Periyār area of Madura. The Deccan had a much better season than in the previous two years. The other districts, however, were adversely affected to a greater or less extent, Tanjore being the worst affected and Trichinopoly and Malabar coming next.

Area sown

The total area sown was slightly above the average in the Circars, Bellary, Cuddapah, Nellore, Chittoor, Malabar and the Nilgiris, and below the average in the other districts, especially in Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Madura. It was greater than the previous year in all districts, except in Tanjore, Tinnevelly and the West Coast.

Outturn

The outturn of crops was above normal in the Circars, Kurnool, Bellary cholam and cotton excepted) and Nellore, normal in Cuddapah (cotton excepted), Chingleput, Chittoor, and Rāmnād, and nearly normal in Anantapur (cholam, castor, and cotton excepted). The outturn was below normal in the other districts and poor in Tanjore, Trichinopoly, North Arcot, Coimbatore, and Tinnevelly.

**Relief work**

147. As a result of the previous unfavourable season, the year opened with famine relief works in Ganjām (Chokkapad khandam), Bellary (Kōlūr), and Anantapur (taluks of Gooty and Madakasīra). Prospects steadily improved in the first two

districts on account of the favourable monsoon, and the works in Ganjām were closed on the 31st August and the work in Bellary by the 22nd September 1924. Distress was severe in Anantapur and additional test works had to be opened and converted into relief works later. There were ten relief works by the end of September in the taluks of Gooty, Dharmavaram, Penukonda, Hindupur, and Madakasīra. The average attendance on these works exceeded 7,000 in the week ending 20th September 1924, while the number receiving gratuitous relief was about 3,000. Thereafter the attendance began to fall, as rain was received and all the works were closed before the 16th October 1924. There was a great demand for loans for agricultural improvements such as the construction of wells, and the loans were sanctioned freely.

Remission

148. Seasonal remissions were granted to some extent on account of inadequate rainfall and scanty supplies in irrigation sources in parts of Vizagapatam (Palkonda and Golgonda), South Arcot, North Arcot (more than one lakh of rupees), Salem (about a lakh of rupees), Trichinopoly (about two lakhs of rupees), and Madura (non-Periyār area—about a lakh of rupees). Remissions on account of inundation and loss of crop were granted to some extent in parts of Ganjām (Berhampur, Chatrapur and Chicacole), Vizagapatam (Sarvasiddhi), Tanjore (more than Rs. 2 lakhs: there was also a remission of Rs. 1·64 lakhs for waste land in Tanjore), Malabar, and South Kanara. Owing to the favourable season, no dry assessment of the fasli was suspended or remitted in Bellary, but, owing to the poor outturn of white cholam and cotton, about Rs. three lakhs of the suspended revenue of the previous two faslis was postponed to the next fasli and more than Rs. 20,000 of this suspended revenue was remitted.

## HORTICULTURE (1924-25)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1924-25; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras for 1924-25*]

**Government Botanic Gardens and Parks, the Nilgiris**

149. The Government Gardens, Ootacamund, and the Sim's Park at Coonoor continued to be well maintained. The outstanding feature of the Botanical Gardens, Ootacamund, was the excellent show of carnations and sweet peas, which attracted the attention of visitors, who purchased large quantities of plants and flowers. The sale of garden produce increased.

In April 1924, 608 lb. of tubers of the medicinal plant *Ipomœa purga* were planted and a year later they gave a yield of 1,700 lb. Many of the tubers were small; the crop had been harvested prematurely as the tubers were required by the Medical Stores. The plantation of *Cephælis ipecacuanha* continued to make progress. The stock of plants numbered 1,000. Young seedlings of *Digitalis purpurea* were planted in May 1924 and matured by February 1925. 120 lb. of leaves have been collected.

**The Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras (1924-25)**

150. The objects of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras are to promote agriculture, arboriculture and horticulture. The gardens of the society are situated at Teynampet. No new plants were tried in the nursery gardens during the year, but certain seeds and bulbs were received and sown in the nursery, with success in some cases. Several new plants were introduced in the ornamental gardens.

The 86th annual exhibition of flowers, fruits and vegetables was held in February 1925, and was well attended.

It was remarked in last year's report that the *Washington Navel* orange made good vegetative growth and bore more fruit than in the previous year, but that there was no improvement in its quality. In the year under report fruit was produced but again not of good quality. The fruit tends to be pithy and is edible only if taken down when immature.

The total receipts of the society for the year amounted to Rs. 21,821 as against Rs. 21,658 in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 21,435 as against Rs. 21,268 in the previous year. The Corporation of Madras made a donation of Rs. 750 to the society. The total amount received from the Government during the year amounted to Rs 4,823.

Finances of the society

## FISHERIES

(1ST JULY 1924 TO 30TH JUNE 1925)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 30th June 1925*]

151. The Retrenchment Committee had recommended that the Fisheries Department should be abolished, such of its activities as were unremunerative should cease and the remainder should be transferred to other departments. Government considered that these proposals would not ensure economy, and decided that the department should remain. Financial conditions improved and fresh development was possible during the year.

General

152. The Government Fisheries Cannery at Chaliyam near Calicut in Malabar worked at a loss of Rs. 7,431 for the period from 1st April 1924 to 31st March 1925. The loss was due to exceptional causes; in particular, the fishing season was poor, the reduced production from November 1924 resulted in idle time, an usually large number of tins and a number of obsolete labels were written off, there were heavy audit fees and sales were poor owing to dislocation of traffic consequent on the floods of 1924. At the beginning of the year under report, the stock was 179,126 tins. 42,677 tins were manufactured, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 85,867; the tins sold numbered 33,886 as against 38,781 in the previous year. For a considerable time railway traffic was interrupted owing to the damage caused by the floods; this seriously affected sales.

Marine Fisheries

The Cannery

A travelling sales-agent to tour the Tamil districts and another to tour the Telugu districts were appointed for a period of six months with a view to increase the sales of canned fish. The canned fish exhibited at the British Empire Exhibition, 1924, found a ready sale.

As a result of research, it was found that Chaliyam tins stored under tropical conditions can remain sound for five years. The rate of dissolution of tin was found to be 14·7 times as great in India as in America temperate zone). Judging from the rate of dissolution of tin in India, canned sardines would appear to be safe in India up to a maximum period of seven years.

Tanur Experimental Station

For three years in succession the fishing season has been a failure at Tanur Experimental Station. The transfer of the Mappilla prisoners to the Andamans reduced the orders from jails. The unprecedented floods interrupted communications and prevented the execution of orders for months. As a result of these factors, the station worked at a loss of Rs. 3,763. The quantity of fish bought for curing amounted to 92,031 lb. in the previous year; in the year under report the quantity was 83,843 lb. The output of oil was 310 gallons, guano 297 lb. and fish-meal 10,348 lb. Inquiries about fish-meal were received from Europe, but the output at the station is at present too small to establish an export trade.

Private oil and guano factories

The number of private oil and guano factories in Malabar and South Kanara rose from 440 in the previous year to 515 in the year under report, but, owing to the bad season, few factories were in operation. It is estimated that 2,000 tons of oil valued at Rs. 4,16,000; 4,000 tons of guano valued at Rs. 4,25,000; and 1,000 tons of fish-manure valued at Rs. 1,00,000 were manufactured during the year. The estimates of the quantities manufactured during the previous year were 7,250 tons of oil, 22,500 tons of guano and 17,000 tons of fish-manure.

Pearl and chank fisheries

For the first time for 25 years the prospects of the pearl fishing on the Indian coast appeared promising. It is estimated that the oysters on the banks number nearly 24 crores. It is proposed

to hold a fishing at Tuticorin in 1926. As was expected, the chank fishery, which is the department's main source of revenue, suffered greatly. During March and April 1925, the best season for chank fishing, the divers left India in a body for the more remunerative and less arduous pearl fishing in Ceylon, and chank fishing had to be suspended during this period. The profit on chank fishing was only Rs. 3,844 against Rs. 35,368 in the previous year.

Beche-de-mer

The quantity of beche-de-mer * cured was 1,900 lb. which is 26 lb. less than the amount cured in the previous year.

Fish-curing yards

The year under report is the first year in which the department administered all the fish-curing yards of the Presidency which were transferred to its control on 1st April 1924.

There were 107 yards at the beginning of the year under report, of which one, in Nellore, was closed during the year. The quantity of fish brought into the yards was 1,205,027 maunds, the weight of cured fish being 755,872 maunds. The weather conditions on both coasts were unusual, on the West Coast 11 yards suffered owing to heavy rain and flood, and on the East Coast 11 yards were destroyed by a cyclone.

The Marine Aquarium

The number of visitors to the Marine Aquarium was 88,627 in the year. The receipts amounted to Rs. 8,144.

Oyster supply

The receipts from the oyster supply section increased from Rs. 332 in the previous year to Rs. 1,274 in the year under report. But this profit was more than balanced by a loss of Rs. 1,391 in the biological supply section; the two sections are combined.

Research

The department continued its research on the habits and life-history of the oil-sardine and the Indian mackerel.

Inland Pisciculture

153. The net profits on inland fisheries were Rs. 11,379 as against Rs. 16,354 in the previous year. The floods in the Cauvery and drought in some districts caused the decrease. The five fish

* A species of sea-cucumber (*Holothuria*).

farms at Sunkesula (Kurnool), Ippur (Nellore), Vellore Fort Moat (North Arcot), Powder Factory (Madras) and the Larvicidal Farm at Praema (Kurnool) distributed fry to the tanks and channels in their neighbourhood.

**Socio-economic activities**

154. The number of pupil teachers on the rolls of the Fisheries Training Institute was 33. The number of village schools was 32 at the end of the year, and the number of pupils had increased from 2,001 in the previous year to 2,450, of whom 691 were girls. The number of co-operative societies for the benefit of fishermen increased from 54 to 56, but they did not work satisfactorily owing to the bad season, the third of three successive bad seasons.

**Finance**

155. The revenue of the department during the year was over Rs. five lakhs and the expenditure over Rs. six lakhs. The receipts and expenditure in the previous year were each a little over three lakhs. The large difference between these figures and those for the year under report is principally due to increased receipts and increased expenditure in connexion with fish-curing yards.

## FORESTS (1924-25)

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year ending the 31st March 1925*; "*Statistical Abstract for British India - Forests*]

**General**

156. Speaking broadly, the aims of Forest administration are threefold: (1) to obtain as much income as possible from forests which are commercially valuable; (2) to protect forests in mountainous tracts so that erosion and landslips may be prevented and the flow of water in the streams which rise in the hills may be regulated; (3) to preserve intact the smaller forests on which the neighbouring population depends for its supplies of small timber and fuel and as grazing ground for cattle.

In past years, the exploitation of forests which are commercially valuable was somewhat neglected. The efforts of the department were largely

concentrated on determining what forest land was the property of the State, and in demarcating such tracts as it was considered advisable to reserve. Moreover, these commercially valuable forests were situated chiefly in remote and rough mountainous country, and in order to exploit them considerable capital was necessary. Also, the smaller forests of the plains, whose intrinsic value is much less, yielded considerable revenue, and so there was no very great inducement to embark on a policy of exploiting tracts where, to obtain revenue, considerable expenditure was first necessary. But, in recent years, owing to changed conditions, the small forests in the plains no longer paid their way and so the policy of exploiting the more valuable forests has been undertaken. Moreover, a large and expensive trained staff was being maintained very largely to manage scrub jungle, for which no technical skill was required. Government therefore decided to re-classify all the forests in the Presidency dividing them into two main categories, viz., forests of provincial importance as being either remunerative or protective, and ryots' forests. The classification was carried out during the year under report, and it may be remarked that since the close of the year Government have decided that the ryots' forests shall in future be managed by the ryots themselves through the medium of panchayats in all cases where panchayats are likely to work efficiently.

157. The various activities of the Forest Department in exploiting the valuable forests are briefly detailed blow. **Exploitation**

Before extraction of timber commences, it is necessary to prepare a detailed scheme for the scientific working of a forest on an organized basis and to prescribe the measures to be adopted in removing the produce and the operations necessary to ensure the regeneration of the forest crop. This is what is meant by a working plan. Working plans

The chief working plans dealt with in the year under report relate to the Chenat Nayar forest in Malabar, Sōmēshwar in North Mangalore division (South Kanara), the Nellikutha reserve at

Nilambūr (Malabar) and the Nālkūr reserve in South Mangalore division (South Kanara).

The first step is to map the area and calculate the amount of produce. It was remarked in last year's report that some useful work in mapping and enumeration had been carried out in the Chenat Nayar forest. This work was greatly expanded during the year and the greater part of the Chenat Nayar forest has now been mapped and enumerated. Similar work was commenced during the year in the neighbourhood of Sōmēshwar (by the end of the year, approximately 5,000 acres had been mapped and enumerated), in the Nellikutha reserved forest at Nilambūr and the Nālkūr reserve of South Mangalore. The object of working these last two forests is to supply sleepers to the railway companies.

In addition to the above, some smaller working plans were prepared and sanctioned in the West Vellore and South Kurnool divisions and in the Coonoor range. Some other working plans were prepared, but these had not received sanction by the end of the year.

Preliminary investigation into the possibility of exploiting the Pāpanāsam forest in the Tinnevelly district considerably advanced. Some 2,500 acres of timber forest have been enumerated and surveys have been made for the construction of 22 miles of metre gauge railway and 12 miles of flume for bringing the eta reed down to the site of the proposed paper factory. The paper made from this reed has been examined and reported on very favourably by the Deputy Controller of Stationery.

The next step in making timber available for the market is to extract it from the forests. In Chenat Nayar forest 98,760 cubic feet of timber were extracted during the year. The outturn in the previous year was 62,313 cubic feet and the cost of working per cubic foot was Rs. 1-2-5. The cost has been reduced in the year under report to about Rs. 1 3 0 per cubic foot, inclusive of overhead charges. It may be remarked that the work is at present located in the most difficult part of the forest and the cost will probably be less in future years. To facilitate the exploitation of this forest.

a saw-mill and seasoning plant were sanctioned at the end of 1923-24 and were erected at Olavakkōt during the year under report. It is too early yet to say what their prospects will be.

The Mount Stuart ghat road in South Coimbatore, intended to facilitate the extraction of forest produce from that region was completed during the year and opened to traffic. A survey was made for an extension of this road into the heart of the forest in order further to facilitate the extraction of timber.

Other utilization work

Below are some further particulars of the work done by the "utilization" branch of the department.

Endeavours were being made to induce railway companies to consider the possibility of obtaining their sleepers from the Forest Department. It was hoped that, as a result of a meeting between the representatives of the railways and the Forest Department, arrangements would be made to supply considerable quantities of sleepers which would be treated by the powellising * process, but nothing has yet been decided. Meanwhile, arrangements have been made to commence the supply of hardwood sleepers that do not require treatment.

In the Nallamalais of Kurnool, operations were in progress in several localities with a view to supply the requirements of the surrounding country in the matter of timber.

Plans and estimates were drawn up and submitted to Government for a causeway over the Kabbani river in Wynaad in order to facilitate the transport of timber from that division to Mysore.

The saw-mill at Russellkonda (Ganjām) showed a profit of Rs. 1,894-12-1 in the year as against a loss of Rs. 6,059-5-3 during the previous year. The average wastage in conversion has been reduced from 66·5 per cent in 1923-24 to 62 per cent in the year under report. The cost of conversion has been reduced from Rs. 1-6-0 per cubic foot to

* "Powellising" is boiling the wood in a solution of molasses, arsenic, etc., to preserve it.

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Rs. 1-2-10. 149,064 cubic feetof logs were converted into 56.117 cubic feet of scantlings. The sales for the year at Russellkonda showed an increase of approximately 5,500 cubic feet over those of the previous year, the quantity sold being approximately 47,035 cubic feet valued at Rs. 1,49,980.

During the year, 9,871 cubic feet of timber were sent to Messrs. Howard & Bros. of London for sale. The total quantity sent to London up to the end of the year amounted to 18,234 cubic feet and of this 2,170 cubic feet remained unsold. The profits up to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 46,330. The net prices obtainable locally (after deducting cost of extraction) varied from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2 per cubic foot for teak, Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 for rosewood and As. 4 to As. 6 for laurel*; whereas the profits obtained from the sales by Messrs. Howard & Bros. amounted to Rs. 3-13-0 per cubic foot in the case of teak, Rs. 5-3-3 in the case of rosewood, and Rs. 2-2-8 in the case of laurel.

A great advance in the organization of the commercial side of the department was made during the year and the work of the Utilization Officer, Madras, has rapidly expanded. In addition to the Forest Utilization Officer, a second officer, designated the Forest Economist, was appointed. Two Rangers to assist the Forest Utilization Officer and, towards the end of the year, an Assistant Forest Utilization Officer were also appointed.

Total output

The output of timber during the year was 99,080 tons of 50 cubic feet (per ton) against 99,520 tons in the previous year; 29,440 tons were extracted by departmental agency and 63,240 tons by purchasers as compared with 26,260 tons and 65,540 tons, respectively, in the previous year.

23,583 tons of fuel were removed by departmental agency as against 23,567 in the previous year, and purchasers removed 266,083 tons as against 319,267 tons in the previous year.

The total value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies amounted to Rs. 3·45 lakhs against Rs. 4·03 lakhs in the previous year.

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* *Terminalia tomentosa.* Said to be one of the best hardwoods. Very favourably commented on at the British Empire Exhibition.

Nearly 703 tons of sandalwood were sold for Rs. 8,88,085, the average price realized being Rs. 1,264 per ton against Rs. 1,107 in the previous year.

158. To prevent permanent damage to the forests, exploitation must be followed by regeneration which may be natural or artificial. Sylviculture

It has been found that natural regeneration may be relied upon to provide a crop which will replace that removed in the felled areas of evergreen forests, such as the Chenat Nayar reserve. This is important as such forests are almost invariably situated in difficult country where extraction of timber can be effected only by mechanical means, and as moving heavy machinery is an expensive matter it is essential, if logging is to be carried out economically, that the whole crop should be extracted in one operation. Natural regeneration

Natural regeneration has also been tried in the Goomsūr forests of Ganjām. Clear fellings were conducted over 267 acres, but, though the regeneration after the clearings were burnt was profuse, many of the young plants suffered from the attacks of a fungus. A further unsatisfactory feature of the growth of the young crops is the fact that after the first thinning, many of the trees were unable to stand upright. Enquiries are being made to remedy these defects.

In the forests of Nilambūr (Malabar), Mount Stuart (South Coimbatore), Gōdāvari, Wynaad, South Kanara, Tinnevelly and Mudumalai (Nilgiris) artificial regeneration was carried out. Artificial regeneration

In Nilambūr the year was disastrous ; the floods of July 1924 did immense damage, many seedlings died from submersion and many others were washed away. It has been found necessary to replant a greater portion of the area of 205 acres from which mature teak plantations and natural forests had been cleared.

At Mount Stuart, 226 acres which had been clear-felled in the previous year were sown chiefly with teak ; the total area sown up to the end of the year was 611 acres. It has been found that in a specimen area sown in the first four years (1919 to 1922), many of the young trees tend to form

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shoots. It appears that much of the area sown is not suitable for teak; and the question of the cultivation of a species other than teak is engaging attention. However, the growth in the younger plantation is very promising.

In Upper Gōdāvari, clear-fellings were carried out over 232 acres. The method of regeneration was the same as in the previous year. This is to collect the debris of the fellings in heaps, burn it and sow the burnt patches with teak seed. In this district the result of teak plantations raised by the *podu* (shifting cultivation) method has been excellent.

In Lower Gōdāvari 65 acres were planted with casuarina.

In the lower portions of the Pāpanāsam forests in the Tinnevelly district, 56 acres were planted with teak.

In the Wynaad some 66 acres of clearings made in 1924 and sown that year were resown and 9 acres of similar clearings were planted with teak stumps. A further area of some 214 acres was cleared to be regenerated during the current year.

In South Kanara 535 acres were sown with *Hopea* in the northern division and 182 acres partly with *Hopea* and partly with *Artocarpus hirsuta* (jack tree) in the southern division. In the latter division 475 acres were resown with *Hopea* and *Artocarpus*, in order to reduce the exceptionally wide espacement previously adopted. A crop of *Hopea* has now been established over an area of some 5,000 acres.

At Mudumalai (Nilgiris) 90 acres were planted with teak stumps and 10 acres sown with *Pterocarpus marsupium* and *Dalbergia latifolia* in 1924. The results were not entirely satisfactory, chiefly because the stumps used were too small. The area was burnt in March 1925 and this has resulted in considerable improvement.

Afforestation

In addition to the above sylvicultural work, some 6,150 acres of young *Hopea* were tended in South Kanara and some afforestation was carried out in the Kundahs in the Nilgiris.

Research

Research into the sylviculture of the species common to the evergreen forests was continued.

159. 18·4 per cent of the total area of reserved forest in the Presidency was closed to grazing, either throughout the year or for part of the year. 223,686 animals were allowed free grazing during the year against 93,299 in the previous year. **Grazing**

The incidence of grazing works out to 4·44 acres per animal as compared with 4·59 acres in the previous year.

160. The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right-holders amounted to Rs. 71,139 against Rs. 87,496 in the previous year. **Right-holders**

161. Below are some remarks on the general administration of the department. Forty-three square miles of reserved land* were finally settled under the Forest Act, and about one square mile was added by recomputation of areas. About 80 square miles were disafforested chiefly in order to provide land for the extension of cultivation in certain districts. **General administration**

The net result was a decrease of 35 square miles in the area of the reserved forests, which at the end of the year was 18,921 square miles.

About 6 square miles were declared reserved lands, while 43 square miles of reserved lands were excluded owing to the operation of forest settlement. The area of reserved lands therefore decreased from 348 to 311 square miles.

Settlement operations were in progress in respect of about 106 square miles in the Nilgiri and Salem divisions.

The total expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 1,30,897 as compared with Rs. 1,08,083, and on repairs Rs. 1,11,178 as compared with Rs. 94,230 in the previous year. One hundred and thirty-nine miles of new roads were made and 1,359 miles repaired. **Works**

The chief new work of the year was the Mount Stuart ghat road, which has been mentioned above.

* NOTE.—When proposals arise to constitute certain land a reserved forest, it is first notified as "reserved land." The Forest Settlement Officer then deals with claims. A further notification may then be issued constituting the land a reserved forest.

It was completed and opened to traffic in November 1924. The total cost incurred on it was Rs. 2,17,590.

Buildings

The chief new buildings constructed during the year were the saw-mill at Olavakkōt at a cost of Rs. 40,950, and buildings at Nilambūr costing Rs. 31,000. Miscellaneous buildings were constructed in various divisions. The total expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 2·13 lakhs against Rs. 1·45 lakhs in the previous year.

Repairs to wells and water-supply

The total sum spent during the year on the construction and repair of wells and on the improvement of water-supply in forests and eradication of rank vegetation was Rs. 16,387. Rs. 11,048 was spent during the previous year.

Live-stock

The number of elephants in charge of the department at the beginning of the year 1924 was 104 valued at Rs. 3,38,500. A sum of Rs. 10,350 was realized by the sale of 12 elephants which were mostly calves and new captures. The cost of the capturing operations was Rs. 6,506 against Rs. 6,239 in the previous year.

At the beginning of the year, the department had in stock 224 buffaloes and bullocks valued at Rs. 19,274. The stock at the end of the year was 170 valued at Rs. 14,509.

Breaches of the Forest Act

During the year, 32,420 cases under the Forest Act were disposed of. The following table shows the disposal:

| | | | 1924-25. | 1923-24. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Taken to court | Convictions 7,682 | ... | 11,196 | 9,023 |
| | Acquittals 3,514 | | | |
| Compounded ... | ... | ... | 19,536 | 19,719 |
| Withdrawn ... | . | ... | 1,688 | 1,463 |
| | Total | ... | 32,420 | 30,205 |

Of the cases taken to court, the percentage of acquittal was 18 in 1922–23, nearly 28 in 1923-24 and 31 in the year under report. The progressive increase is said to be due to the fact that a larger number of cases have been compounded after being taken on file.

During the year, a sum of Rs. 2,65,310 was realized as compounding fees; the amount in the previous year was Rs. 2,81,310.

As a protection against fire, the system of early burning was continued in most of the more important forests. The only instance in which it has been reported that the people took exception to this system was in the case of some reserves in Guntūr where the burning deprived them of the opportunity of collecting thatching grass. Early burning was carried out over about 4,060 square miles. The area over which special protection was attempted was 4,269 square miles, of which 82 square miles were burnt. Protection against fire

The expenditure during the year on protection from fire was Rs. 53,935 against Rs. 59,929 in the previous year, the average expenditure during the previous five years being Rs. 97,196. This very considerable reduction in expenditure was due to the adoption of the system of early burning.

During the year, 127 square miles of forest were handed over to panchayats and the total area under panchayat management at the close of the year was 985 square miles managed by 507 panchayats. The work of the special panchayat staff was confined to 11 districts as in the previous year. Two hundred and sixty-one panchayats were reported to be working on sound lines. Owing to the transfer of reserves to panchayat management the two forest divisions of Kistna and Chingleput were abolished. Panchayats

In addition, 40 panchayats were working under the control of the Revenue Department and administered an area of 73 square miles.

The forest village system was in force during the year in certain reserves in the East and West Vellore, East and South Salem, North and South Coimbatore and North and South Mangalore divisions. The system on the whole worked satisfactorily.

Twenty-four students passed out of the Forest College in 1925. Of these, 8 were from Bombay, 5 from Central Provinces, 4 from Ceylon, 2 from Bihar and Orissa, and 1 from Kcon Jahar State, while 4 were Madras Government stipendiary students. One student from Ceylon failed at the final examination. Forest College

Vernacular schools

Vernacular training schools were held in some places. Five students from Bihar and Orissa were trained in the school held in the Ganjām district.

Finance

The total gross revenue during the year was Rs. 55·70 lakhs as against Rs. 54·16 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure debitable to the Forest Department was Rs. 51·18 lakhs as against Rs. 46·94 lakhs in the previous year. The result was a surplus of Rs. 4·52 lakhs as against Rs. 7·22 lakhs in the previous year. General Direction cost Rs. 1·08 lakhs, the Engineering Branch Rs. 2·01 lakhs and the Forest Panchayat staff Rs. ·33 lakh The Forest College worked at a loss of Rs. ·12 lakh.

## MINES (1924)

[*G.O. No. 844, Development, dated the 9th June 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production*]

**Output**

162. In the year under report, the minerals raised in this Presidency were manganese, magnesite, mica, steatite, barytes, gold and silver. Vizagapatam, Bellary and Kurnool supplied the manganese, Salem the magnesite, Nellore and the Nilgiris the mica, Kurnool the steatite and barytes and Anantapur the gold and silver. There has been a considerable increase in the output of manganese—Vizagapatam supplied 31,821 tons, Bellary 9,459 tons and Kurnool 390 tons, making a total of 41,670 tons, an increase of about 66 per cent over the figure for the previous year. The output in Vizagapatam was considerably less in 1922 than it was in 1921, but in 1923 the output was more than twice what it had been in 1922, and it has still further increased in the year under report. In Bellary the output in the year was more than three times what it was in the previous year. There has been a steady increase in the output of magnesite since 1921. The quantity mined has reached 24,427 tons in 1924, an increase of about 26 per cent over the figure for the previous year. There was some improvement in the mica trade during the year and, as a result, several mines in the Nellore district, which had been

closed, were re-opened. The prospects of the industry appear to be more hopeful. The output from the Nilgiris was only 22 tons ; the mineral was worked for the first time in the year under report. The output of gold was 3,646 oz. troy and that of silver 249 oz., each more than twice the output in the previous year. But the output of gold, though it increased, was only about a third of the output in 1921. Extensive prospecting for asbestos was carried out in the Cuddapah district and 270 cwt. were raised, though no regular mining under a mining lease was conducted.

**General condition of the employees**

163. Mines were inspected by various officers during the year. The general health of the employees was satisfactory, and there were no epidemics. In Anantapur, the maximum wages paid to maistris at the North Anantapur Gold Mines slightly increased, the minimum wages paid to the maistris at the Gooty prospecting block nearly doubled, the maximum weekly wages paid to mechanics at the North Anantapur Mines doubled, and at the Jibutil Gold Field they increased from Rs. 3-13-0 to Rs. 5.

**Wages**

**Accidents**

164. Seven accidents, of which three proved fatal, occurred in the Anantapur Gold Mines during the year. In the Nellore district a cartridge exploded accidentally, one person was injured and his right hand had to be amputated. Four accidents occurred in the Salem Magnesite Works, one person was killed and three others were seriously injured.

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## MANUFACTURES (1924-25)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act during the year 1924 (G.O. No. 880, Development, dated 17th June 1925; Statement of Cotton and Jute Mills at work in the Presidency during the year 1924-25; Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1924-25; Report on the Government Cinchona Department, Madras, for 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India – Industries*]

**General**

165. The table below shows the number of persons employed in various industries during the year 1924. No other industry in the Presidency

gave employment to a daily average of more than 1,000 hands.

| Class of factory. | Persons employed. |
|---|---|
| Railway workshops ... ... ... | 15,953 |
| Rice mills ... ... ... ... | 13,450 |
| Tile factories ... ... ... ... | 6,276 |
| Printing presses ... ... ... | 4,007 |
| Coffee works ... ... ... ... | 3,665 |
| Sugar factories ... ... ... | 3,571 |
| Rope works .. ... ... ... | 2,996 |
| Tea factories ... ... ... ... | 1,538 |
| Leather works and tanneries .. | 1,481 |
| Kerosene tinning and packing works. | 1,380 |
| Tobacco factories ... ... ... | 1,254 |
| Iron, brass and steel foundries ... | 997 |
| Motor works and coach-building works ... ... ... ... | 873 |
| Saw-mills ... ... ... ... | 757 |
| Bone and oil mills ... .. ... | 732 |
| Engineering workshops ... ... | 592 |
| Tramway works ... ... ... | 586 |
| Jewellery workshops ... ... | 431 |
| Metal works ... ... ... ... | 313 |
| Aluminium works ... ... ... | 259 |
| Cement works ... ... ... | 219 |

New industrial undertakings

The financial stringency which prevailed during the greater part of the year was reflected not only in fewer new flotations, but also in the number of companies which ceased to exist during the year. Three new cottonmills were registered, and among minor undertakings may be mentioned a carpet factory, two soap works, one metal works, a tile works and a concern for the manufacture of safes and locks.

**Factories (1924)**

General

166. At the close of 1924, the number of factories in the Madras Presidency coming under the Indian Factories Act was 1,112, of which 771 were perennial and 341 seasonal. Sixty-eight factories were not worked, so that only 1,044 factories were in commission during the year. The daily average number of operatives was 121,114 as against 115,158 during the previous year, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. As usual, textile factories, including cotton and jute mills, gave employment to the largest number, viz., 34,766, while factories relating to food, drink and tobacco employed 24,879 persons.

The group comprising engineering, electric and tramway works and railway and motor workshops which had declined in the previous year recovered its position during the year under review, giving employment to 18,653 persons. The number employed in cotton ginning, cleaning and pressing works and jute presses has been increasing steadily and stood at 16,547. The chief decrease noticeable was in the number of persons employed in oil and bone mills (365), while metal works, iron and brass foundries, etc., recorded a further decrease of 82. There were ten strikes in 1924 affecting factories employing 10,939 operatives of whom 2,542 actually went on strike.

Women and children employed

The total number of women and children employed in the year 1923 and the number of those employed in 1924 are compared in the following table :—

| | Women. | Boys. | Girls. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1923 ... ... | 23,101 | 4,485 | 2,322 |
| 1924 ... ... | 25,429 | 4,722 | 2,390 |

The increase is due to the additional factories registered. Certification of children is fairly satisfactory.

Inspections

The number of inspections made was 1,385. Eighty-nine factories were not inspected for various reasons. In addition, 88 visits were made to factories but they were found closed.

Health

The health of the operatives was generally good. Two more factories provided dispensaries and one factory provided medical attendants. During the year, Government ordered that whenever employees of mills and factories drawing less than Rs. 50 per mensem are admitted as in-patients in Government hospitals at the instance of their employers, a charge of eight annas a day for each patient should be levied from the employers by way of hospital stoppage. The sanitation of the factories both inside and outside was fairly satisfactory.

Education

Two more factories provided schools for the children working in factories.

Wages

The daily average rate of wages paid in all factories in the Presidency for unskilled labour

generally fell, while the rate for skilled labour rose in the case of some kinds of labour and fell in the case of others.

Fires

There were eight fires during the year. In three cases the damage was covered by insurance. There was no loss to human life.

Accidents

There were 986 accidents in the year as against 938 in the previous year. The number of fatal injuries increased from 8 in 1923 to 11 in 1924 and the number of serious accidents from 41 in 1923 to 196 in 1924. Of these fatal and serious accidents, 77 were caused by machinery driven by mechanical power.* A great increase in the number of serious accidents was largely to be explained by the revised classification of accidents as such. Accidents which are now classed as serious would not have been so classed in previous years. But the number of really serious accidents increased from 11 in 1923 to 42 in 1924. A large proportion of the accidents, serious and minor, occurred in railway workshops.

Welfare of employees

Certain factories, other than those mentioned last year, took measures to look after the welfare of their employees. For example, two tile factories in Malabar provided kitchens for coolies to cook their daily meal ; a brewery in the Nilgiris allowed a half-yearly bonus of half a month's pay to the employees who are paid monthly ; the manure works in Coimbatore allowed a yearly bonus of two months' pay to the staff who are paid monthly ; at the cordite factory at Aruvankadu, an Indian nurse paid by the Red Cross Society was employed to look after children and instruct the women.

Cotton and Jute Mills (1924-25)

167. Exclusive of mills in the Native States of Travancore and Cochin and in the French Settlements, there were 22 cotton mills at work during the year 1924-25. Of these, one stopped work for re-construction and re-modelling of the mill on the 26th November 1924. There were 4,075 looms, 56 throttles and 543,469 spindles at work. The total number of persons employed was 29,685.

* During 1925 Government have ordered that "Danger" notices should be posted in all factories which employ machinery.

As in the previous year there were four jute mills with 565 looms and 12,912 spindles. The daily average number of persons employed was, 4,575.

Industries (1924-25)

168. It was remarked last year that the Statutory Board of Industries considered seven applications for loans and submitted appropriate recommendations to Government. Of these applications, one was withdrawn and four loans were refused; in the other two cases loans were granted by Government—one to develop silk manufacture and the other to assist a rice and saw-mills company, in buying a vertical band saw. In the year under report the Board considered ten applications. Of these, two were withdrawn, one was under investigation at the close of the year, three were not recommended and the remaining four were recommended, of which Government sanctioned two during the year. Of the two sanctioned, one was a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs to the Carnatic Paper Mills, Ltd.

Loans

The Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information dealt with a considerable number of inquiries on industrial and commercial subjects, both from the public and from other Government departments.

Industrial and commercial information

Numerous analyses were carried out for private parties during the year. Among the samples was one of what was believed to be manganese ore. This was analyzed by the Geological Survey Department who found it to contain 48·92 per cent of manganese and pronounced it to be a first-class manganese ore. But they were doubtful if the specimen should be considered a true and representative sample of the deposit.

Analyses

Last year's report referred to the investigations which were being made into the possibilities of developing the coir industry on the East Coast. The attempts made by the department to persuade people in the Gŏdāvari district to adopt improved methods of retting coconut husk did not prove successful. Further attempts are to be made. The department has investigated the question of developing the match industry. Assistance was rendered to a considerable number of

Industrial research

inquirers by putting them in touch with manufacturers of up-to-date machinery and chemicals and by informing them of the timbers which would be likely to prove suitable. A number of industrialists who have started, or contemplate starting, small factories, do not appear to have appreciated the necessity of selecting a suitable site for their operations and of ascertaining beforehand whether suitable match woods can be delivered at the factories at a price which would admit of manufacture at a profit. The result has been that some small concerns have come to grief.

Chemical research

During the year Government sanctioned a post of Leather Research Chemist, one Senior Assistant Chemist and a Junior Assistant Chemist.

Government establishments

During the year Government maintained certain factories of which particulars are given below.

The Retrenchment Committee recommended that as the Kerala Soap Institute had already demonstrated the possibility of manufacturing soaps and had therefore ceased to be a pioneer factory, it should be sold. But the factory had worked at a loss for two years and trade was bad. Government considered that the institute should be continued for another year. The year under report has been one of extension in all branches of the factory's activities and the factory had a net profit of over Rs. 23,164 on the year's working, which means a return of 7·11 per cent on the capital invested in the institute.

The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, which manufactures ink, made a net profit of over Rs. 3,110 on the year's working, a return of 15·5 per cent on the capital invested. Cheap ink powders are very popular and it was found that powders of superior quality could be manufactured at a price which would permit of competition with inferior ink powders manufactured locally. The quality of the standard fluid inks was improved during the year and the ordinary blue-black writing ink now produced by the institute is of excellent quality.

The result of the year's working at the Fruit Preserving Institute, Coonoor, was a loss of

Rs. 23,681. It was remarked in last year's report that the future policy in regard to the factory was under the consideration of the Government. Government decided that the factory should be continued for the present, every effort being made to reduce the cost of production, to increase sales and to obtain offers from individuals or firms to take over the factory as a going concern.

The Government Glue Factory was closed on the 31st July 1924. The market for glue has proved too limited to permit the manufacture on a scale sufficiently large to make the factory pay.

The Pallapālaiyam Sugarcane-crushing Factory showed a net profit of Rs. 716 on the year's working. As was remarked last year, this factory has demonstrated the success and economy of power-crushing.

Weaving

The number of peripatetic weaving parties was reduced from 10 to 5 towards the close of the year under report. The reason for the decision to reduce the number of parties was that all the important weaving centres in the Northern Circars and the Ceded Districts had been visited, and it was considered possible for the remaining five parties to arrange periodical visits to these centres. The nature of work of the parties has also undergone some alteration; for, while formerly they were concerned mainly in propaganda work with a view to the general adoption of the fly-shuttle slay and lever dobbies, they now attend to the improvement of the preparatory processes, the demonstration of the departmental hand-sizing machines, the distribution of power-sized warps and the development of sericultural operations in the districts.

Sericulture

A block of 12 acres of land for the expansion of mulberry cultivation at the Coonoor silk farm was acquired in June. Kollegal, as was remarked last year, is the only place in the Presidency where sericulture is an established industry. The total requirements of Kollegal amount to about seventy-five lakhs of layings per annum. Even when the operations at Coonoor are fully developed, it is not anticipated that it will be possible to produce more

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

than three lakhs of layings per annum for distribution to the rearers in Kollegal. Hence efforts were made by the department during the year to educate the rearers to test their own moths. During the year 80 acres were brought under mulberry cultivation in the Presidency.

Textile Institute

The manufacturing section of the Textile Institute was occupied with the construction and supply of improved types of hand-looms and appliances.

Pumping and boring

In the previous year 11 loans amounting to Rs. 74,000 were granted for the installation of pumping machinery. During the year under report 18 loans amounting to Rs. 88,500 were sanctioned. The department maintained in operation five power-drills and 50 hand-drills. The total depth bored during the year was 28,841 feet as against 24,180 feet in the previous year.

In connexion with the mapping of under-ground water-supplies, one surveyor was employed on the work of connecting the levels of boreholes put down by the department with mean sea-level. During the year, 188½ miles of levels were taken and 131 borings were connected with the mean sea-level in the Nellore district. In the Kistna district, 63 miles of levels were taken and 34 borings were connected with mean sea-level. In the Tinnevelly district, 174½ miles of levels were taken and 141 borings were connected with mean sea-level.

The total receipts of the engineering section of the department amounted to Rs. 1·02 lakhs as against Rs. ·90 lakh in the previous year. The charges advanced from Rs. 2·14 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 2·38 lakhs in the year under report.

Manufacture of quinine

169. The profit on the year's working of the Government Cinchona Factory was Rs. 3·28 lakhs. The new plantations in the Anamalais, referred to last year, were commenced. The following are details of the sales from the factory :—Quinine sulphate 17,164½ lb., malarone (cinchona febrifuge) 18,124 lb., quinine hydro-chloride 1,186 lb., quinine bi-hydro-chloride 356 lb., cinchona bark 387 lb. and quinine tablets 241 lb.

Industrial education

170. On the report of the Committee on Technical and Industrial Education, Government decided that more assistance should be given to aided schools and that it is desirable to establish model Government industrial schools in each language area in the Presidency.

During the year two State technical scholarships fell vacant and necessary steps to advertise the vacancies and select candidates to fill them were taken towards the end of the year under report. There were six Madras State technical scholars undergoing technical courses of training in the United Kingdom at the end of the year.

Seven scholarships were awarded during the year tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Government directed that the number of scholarships tenable at Bangalore should be reduced from 15 to 14 and that one scholarship at the Leather Trades Institute should be given. This new scholarship was awarded for a period of one year from the 1st July 1924. Five new scholarships were awarded during the year tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay. Sixty new industrial scholarships tenable for a period of five years were awarded with effect from the 1st July 1924 to pupils learning trades in the various recognized industrial schools.

The Madras Government Trades School was transferred to its new permanent buildings in Broadway during the year. In spite of the general unsettlement consequent on the transfer, the efficiency of the school was well maintained. The number of new admissions to the school during the year was 295.

The Textile Institute, which was on a temporary basis, moved to the buildings vacated by the Trades School. The Institute provided various courses of training.

The Apprentice School in connexion with the Perambūr Railway Works had a successful year. Thirty-one fresh admissions were made in the day classes and 43 in the evening (vernacular) classes. The total strength at the end of the year was 164.

There were 89 students on the rolls of the Madras Industrial Institute at the end of the year,

The apprentices were on strike for about a fortnight at the commencement of the year, but owing to the action taken the apprentices seemed to become more contented. Discipline was afterwards very well maintained.

Aided schools

The number of industrial schools recognized by the department at the end of the year was 51, of which all, except two, were in receipt of grants-in-aid. At the close of the year there were 2,584 pupils under training, of whom 1,616 were Indian Christians. An amount of Rs. 1,05,258 was distributed to these schools.

There has been a decrease in recent years in the number of students on the rolls of the Leather Trades Institute, Madras. The number on the rolls during the year was only 10. Of the 12 students who completed their course during the previous year, six are known to have been successful in obtaining positions in the leather trade, but, so far as is known, the remaining six have not secured suitable employment.

School of Arts and Crafts

The number of pupils on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts at the end of the year was 443, of whom 20 were females. Though the school increased considerably in numbers during the year, there was a decline in average attendance from 71 per cent in the previous year to 55 per cent in the year under report. The number who appeared for the Government technical examinations from this school was 196 in 1923-24; it was 104 in the year under report. Seventy per cent of these passed.

Finance

171. The net cost of the department in the year was Rs. 6,60,651-5-7, which is Rs. 2,248-1-0 less than in the previous year.

## LABOUR (1924-25)

[*Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1924-25*]

General

172. Except for the strike among firemen, drivers and workshop employees on certain sections of the South Indian Railway, the labour situation was generally quiet during the year. After prolonged discussion and negotiation, the strike was brought to an end. There were 13 other strikes. The strikes lasted for periods ranging from a day to a fortnight.

In June there was an exodus of some famished and disease-stricken coolies from the Anamalais (Coimbatore). Some of these people who fell sick made their way to the Pollachi hospital, but a few died on the way. The District Magistrate took prompt steps to help these unfortunate men and the Labour Department gave Rs. 750 in addition to the expenditure incurred by the District Magistrate. The Anamalai Planters' Association also made immediate arrangements to have the ghat patrolled by an ambulance cart and established a first-aid station with beds in a chattram at the fourteenth mile on the ghat road.

Certain labourers recruited from the Ceded districts for the Assam tea gardens were repatriated as they refused to work in gardens. The Labour Commissioner visited the chief recruiting centres to get first-hand information from the coolies as to their reasons for leaving the estates. The Legislative Council passed a resolution that emigration to Assam should be stopped, but the Government were unable to give effect to it as it would be detrimental to the interests of the labouring classes thus to restrict their freedom to sell their labour in the best market.

Depressed classes

173. The activities of the Labour Department in improving the conditions of the depressed classes progressed satisfactorily during the year. Two hundred and eight acres of patta land were acquired for use as building sites and distributed among 3,674 applicants. The policy of assigning

lands for cultivation to members of the depressed classes out of the extents reserved for them was continued. The co-operative movement grew; during the year 334 societies were formed for the acquisition of house-sites, for advancing loans to members and for joint cultivation and joint purchase and sale of stores, a noteworthy feature being the formation of societies for relieving the distress caused by the floods.

In the Tanjore district, Ādi-Drāvida villages in four taluks suffered severely owing to floods. Government sanctioned loans at favourable rates of interest and help was afforded to destitutes out of the "common good" funds of co-operative societies and by private donations.

During the year, 166 new schools were opened for the benefit of the depressed classes. The total number of schools in existence at the end of the year was 656. The number of pupils was 22,214. During the year, 385 scholarships and 111 fee remissions were granted. The system of scholarships and fee remissions was extended. Government sanctioned a scheme for awarding industrial scholarships to pupils belonging to the depressed classes learning a trade or profession in recognized industrial schools or to selected apprentices serving properly arranged apprenticeships for a specified term of training in workshops or mills. Under this scheme, 110 scholarships were granted.

A sum of Rs. 1·47 lakhs was spent on account of wells, pathways, burial-grounds and sanitary improvements in Madras cheris.

The number of district boards, taluk boards and municipal councils which had no member of the depressed classes serving on them were 129 and 15, respectively, but these figures do not take into account certain local bodies from which information has not been received. The number of local bodies on which more than one member of the depressed classes served increased from 12 in March 1924 to 41 in March 1925.

Kallars

The work of reclamation of Kallars has made considerable progress. Some details of the work will be found at page 43 above in the section dealing with "Police."

174. There were eight settlements in the Presidency for criminal tribes. Of these, four were maintained by the Salvation Army, one by the American Baptist Mission, one by Messrs. Parry & Co. and two by Government. The year under report has been satisfactory as regards the health of the settlers. There was an excess of births over deaths. In each of the settlements there is a school, attendance at which is compulsory for all children of school-going age. The cost of maintaining the school is borne by Government. Besides these schools, Government have established two industrial schools, one for boys in Perambūr and the other in Nellore for girls, under the management of the Salvation Army. The industries taught at the Perambūr Industrial School are carpentry, tailoring and rattan work. **Criminal tribes' settlements**

Co-operative societies were formed in two settlements.

During the year, 238 settlers were convicted.

175. A sum of Rs. 8,01,300 was allotted to the Labour Department, as compared with Rs. 7,52,000 in the previous year. Of the sum allotted, an amount of Rs. 1·65 lakhs was appropriated for free grants and Rs. 2,19,600 for educational charges for depressed classes. A sum of Rs. 4 lakhs was appropriated for loans for acquisition of house-sites. Of these amounts, sums of Rs. 1,46,752 were spent on free grants, Rs. 1,99,890 on education and Rs. 2,19,934 on loans. **Finance**

## SEA-BORNE TRADE (1924–25)

[*Review of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1924–25; Annual Volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistical Abstract for British India—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India; Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India; Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 Vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

176. During the first four months of the year 1924–25, imports did not show much variation as **General summary**

compared with the corresponding period of the previous year; but from August 1924 onwards there was a steady increase, especially under cotton piece-goods. The increase in imports of that commodity was caused by a good crop and reduced prices of American cotton, together with a higher rate of exchange. The export trade during the year showed a remarkable expansion. There was a rise in the price of most Indian produce owing to a larger demand from other countries whose economic conditions had improved. Sterling exchange, which was below 1*s.* 5*d.* up to July 1924, began to appreciate, touched 1*s.* $6\frac{5}{16}$*d.* (T.T. top rate) about the 9th October and remained steady about 1*s.* 6*d.* until the end of the year.

**Trade.**

177. The following table shows the value of the trade, including Government transactions :—

| Private Trade. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | Percentage of difference. | Government Trade. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | Percentage of difference. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. | | | Rs. | Rs. | |
| I. Foreign Trade— | | | | | | | |
| Imports. | 20,07,32,188 | 20,81,20,853 | + 3·64 | | 43,41,842 | 45,07,739 | — 6·30 |
| Exports. | 35,91,28,754 | 41,08,24,081 | +14·39 | | 2,45,353 | 1,44,352 | — 41·22 |
| Total Foreign Trade ... | 55,98,60,942 | 61,89,54,934 | +10·55 | | 50,86,695 | 46,52,091 | ... |
| II. Coasting Trade— | | | | | | | |
| Imports. | 20,48,07,397 | 21,52,80,528 | + 5·09 | | 7,35,887 | 7,34,359 | + 0·21 |
| Exports. | 11,83,45,550 | 11,20,06,973 | — 5·36 | | 17,94,186 | 13,04,501 | — 27·27 |
| Total Coasting Trade ... | 32,31,52,950 | 32,72,87,501 | + 1·28 | | 25,28,073 | 20,42,860 | — 19·2 |
| Grand Total, Private Trade ... | 88,30,13,893 | 94,72,42,435 | + 7·27 | Grand Total, Government Trade ... | 76,14,768 | 66,94,951 | — 12·09 |

| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | Percentage of differences. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Rs. | Rs. | |
| Total Trade ... ... ... | 89,06,28,666 | 95,39,37,386 | + 7·11 |

**Foreign imports**

The increase in imports from abroad was due to larger receipts of sugar, cotton twist and yarn, cotton manufactures, mineral oils, unspecified articles by post, hardware, dyes, metals and motor vehicles. The chief items which showed decreases were railway materials, machinery, tobacco, coal and apparel. The increase in exports

to foreign ports was due to heavier shipments of seeds, leather, raw cotton, coffee, coir manufactures, raw jute, tea and raw rubber, partly set off by decreased consignments of sugar, grain and pulse, raw skins and oils.

Approximately three-fourths of the total imports (reckoned in rupees) fell under the head "Articles wholly or mainly manufactured." The value of the imports of such articles was Rs. 1,501·98 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 12·78 lakhs over the figure for the previous year. The imports of the next greatest value were under the head "Food, drink and tobacco." The imports of these commodities were worth Rs. 274·43 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 53·68 lakhs over the figure for the previous year; the increase was due to larger imports of sugar partly set off by smaller imports of tobacco. The following are the commodities which occupied the four chief places amongst the imports to this Presidency from abroad. The figures in brackets after each article give the percentage which the import of the particular article bears to the total value of the imports to the Presidency; cotton manufactures (18·10), metals and ores (12·40), cotton twist and yarn (9·09), machinery and mill work (7·31).

The statistics reveal in some cases interesting facts about the imports of certain commodities.

The total value of *cotton goods* imported represented 27 per cent of the foreign import trade. There was a revival of trade in grey shirtings which shows that Lancashire makers are still able to compete with the Japanese and Indian mills in these goods. The United Kingdom supplied 90 per cent of the cotton goods imported and Japan 7 per cent. Imports of *grey yarn* improved. Japan increased her supply of grey yarn under counts 31 to 40 from 34,000 lb. in the previous year to 2,341,560 lb. in the year under report, while the imports from the United Kingdom fell from 812,476 to 547,994 lb. Japan captured not only the trade lost by the United Kingdom but also a good share of the Indian mill trade. Amongst other factors which contributed to the large increase in imports of Japanese yarn,

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

it must be remembered that Madras dealers in previous years obtained this yarn from Bombay and Calcutta, but are now being supplied direct by Japan.

The imposition of protective duties since June 1924 did not appear to have had much influence on the imports of *iron and steel* in the year under report as large quantities of these metals were received even after July 1924. The consumption of *steel bars* from Belgium considerably increased in this Presidency. That country was still the chief supplier of *iron and steel*; but while her share in the total quantity with a lower level of prices showed a decline of 1 per cent, the share of the United Kingdom advanced by 4 per cent. Of the total tonnage, Belgium supplied 46 per cent and the United Kingdom 40 per cent, while of the total rupee value, Belgium supplied 29 per cent and the United Kingdom 54 per cent.

Under *brass*, imports of mixed or yellow metal for sheathing increased. Imports from Germany went up from 32,154 cwt. to 49,334 cwt., while those from the United Kingdom declined from 48,117 cwt. to 42,948 cwt.

Imports of *railway plant and rolling-stock* declined from Rs. 113·74 lakhs to Rs. 66·78 lakhs. Under this head imports of constructive materials decreased by approximately two-thirds. This decrease was due to larger orders being placed with Messrs. Tata Iron and Steel Company, who are suppliers of iron and steel rails, etc. Of the total imports of railway plant and rolling-stock, the United Kingdom supplied 82 per cent.

The United Kingdom supplied 84 per cent of the *machinery* imported, the United States coming next with 10 per cent.

Imports of *mineral oils* to Madras rose from 16·81 million gallons valued at Rs. 109·86 lakhs to 18·51 million gallons valued at Rs. 121·19 lakhs; more than 54 per cent of the imports consisted of kerosene oil, of which the United States supplied the largest quantity.

Imports of *refined sugar* trebled in quantity and more than doubled in value. The increase was due to a fall in the price of Cuban and Java sugar.

The shares of the United Kingdom and Germany in the total imports of *paper, pasteboard and stationery* increased, while the share of Sweden and Norway together declined.

There was a decrease in the number of *motor cars* imported, but this has been more than made up by a greater number of motor omnibuses, motor vans and motor lorries, which rose from 265 in the previous year to 514 in the year under report, of which only 11 came from the United Kingdom and 496 from the United States and Canada.

Imports of *raw silk* increased from 278,452 lb. to 364,773 lb. in quantity and from Rs. 28·41 lakhs to Rs. 32·68 lakhs in value. The increase was due to the growing demand for silk cloth woven in this country as the difference in value between silk cloth and cotton fabrics of high counts is small.

In 1923–24 the imports of *alizarine dye* from the United Kingdom amounted to 400,813 lb.; in the year under report they have fallen to 34,731 lb. The imports of *aniline dye* from the United Kingdom have also shown a decrease. The imports of these dyes from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany were approximately twice as great as they were in the previous year and amounted to over 2½ million pounds. The shipments from the Netherlands and Belgium were of German origin.

Imports of *foreign coal* declined from 67,203 tons to 31,332 tons. Imports of *Bengal coal* increased from 207,781 tons to 358,166 tons.

Foreign exports

Exports of "Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured" formed approximately one-half of the total exports from this Presidency to other countries. The value of such articles exported during the year was Rs. 2,017·48 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 366·01 lakhs over the figure for the previous year. Next in importance come "Articles wholly or mainly manufactured" (exports = Rs. 1,078·36 lakhs) and then "Food, drink and tobacco" (exports = Rs. 859·98 lakhs).

The following are the commodities which occupied the four chief places amongst the exports from this Presidency:—Seeds (24·91 per cent), raw

cotton (16·71 per cent), leather (14·77 per cent) and tea (7·47 per cent).

Nearly 94 per cent of the export trade in *seeds* was in groundnuts.

Shipments of *raw cotton* to Japan, the chief customer, have nearly doubled in quantity. The increase is due to larger demand for Indian cotton as a result of the expansion of the Japanese mill industry in recent years. The total exports of raw cotton increased by 3 per cent in quantity and by 15 per cent in value.

Trade in *tanned hides and skins* advanced from Rs. 490·20 lakhs to Rs. 589·90 lakhs. There has been an exceptionally good demand for tanned hides particularly for the home trade and values have steadily advanced, though the quantity has decreased from 11,127 tons to 10,857 tons. The United Kingdom took almost the whole of the tanned hides exported. Exports of tanned skins increased both in quantity and in value. There was a strong demand from London, especially for the lower grades.

Exports of *tea* declined in quantity from 38·56 million lb. to 37·72 million lb., but increased in value from Rs. 286·99 lakhs to Rs. 301·03 lakhs.

Exports of *coffee* increased by 13 per cent in quantity and, of the total quantity shipped, the United Kingdom increased her share by 5 per cent, France by 7 per cent, Germany by 95 per cent, Belgium by 82 per cent and Italy by 80 per cent.

Exports of *sugar* fell from Rs. 78·29 lakhs to Rs. 47·48 lakhs. The fall was no doubt due to the record crop in Cuba and other sugar-producing countries.

Exports of *tobacco* increased by 44 per cent in quantity. Trade was mostly in leaf tobacco, exports of which amounted to 14·37 million lb. as compared with 9·95 million lb. in the previous year and 4·26 million lb. in 1922-23 which would seem to show that Indian tobacco is increasing in popularity.

Shipments of *paddy and rice* fell. There was a great decrease in the exports to Ceylon, due to large quantities of cheap Burma rice being brought into that Colony.

Shipments of *indigo* to Egypt declined, and shipments to Japan ceased. The decline is due to increasing supplies of German synthetic dyes.

**Government transactions**

178. The total value of Government stores imported amounted to Rs. 46·08 lakhs as compared with Rs. 48·41 lakhs in the previous year. Smaller quantities of stationery, machinery, chemicals, apparel, arms and ammunition were imported. These decreases were set off to a certain extent by increased imports under woollen and cotton manufactures. The share of the United Kingdom in the total import trade (Government transactions) was Rs. 43·54 lakhs.

**Treasure**

179. Imports of gold amounted to Rs. 73·81 lakhs consisting chiefly of sovereigns from Western Australia. Imports of silver decreased from Rs. 7·65 lakhs to Rs. 4·20 lakhs. Exports of gold were mainly sovereigns sent to Ceylon and Mauritius and amounted to Rs. 1·21 lakhs. Exports of silver advanced from Rs. 31·10 lakhs to Rs. 40·95 lakhs. Of this amount, Rs. 40·65 lakhs consisted of Government of India rupees sent to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States.

**Trade by countries**

180. Trade with the United Kingdom has been slowly declining since 1922–23 when it was 44·21 per cent ; in 1923–24 it was 41·7 per cent, and in the year under report it has fallen to 39 per cent of the total trade. In 1913-14, the percentage was 42·5. The trade with the entire British Empire in 1923–24 amounted to 60·64 per cent of the total trade ; in the year under report it has fallen to 54·61 per cent. In the year 1923–24, 61 per cent of the total value of imports was supplied by the United Kingdom ; in the year under report, the percentage has fallen to 55. Exports to the United Kingdom represented 30 per cent of the trade as compared with 31 per cent in 1923–24. Trade with foreign countries in Europe amounted to 27·85 per cent, with Asia 11·81 per cent, with Africa 0·23 per cent and with America 5·50 per cent of the total trade. The following figures are interesting :—Of the total trade, the share of France advanced from 10·79 per cent to 10·98 per cent, that of Germany from 3·86 to 5·20 per

cent, of the Netherlands from 2·12 to 3·15 per cent, of Spain from ·29 to ·84 per cent and that of Japan from 4·42 to 7·48 per cent.

**Coasting trade**

181. The aggregate value of the *coasting trade* advanced from Rs. 3,257 lakhs to Rs. 3,303 lakhs, of which Rs. 20 lakhs represent Government stores and treasure, and the remainder private merchandise.

Imports of Indian merchandise improved from Rs. 1,773·71 lakhs to Rs. 1,916·84 lakhs, while those of foreign merchandise declined from Rs. 274·35 lakhs to Rs. 245·96 lakhs. Exports of Indian merchandise amounted to Rs. 1,087·28 lakhs as against Rs. 1,164·44 lakhs, and exports of foreign merchandise to Rs. 32·79 lakhs as against Rs. 19·01 lakhs in the previous year.

**Trade by ports**

182. The following table shows the total foreign and coasting trade and comparative importance of the principal ports in the Madras Presidency. Government transactions are excluded:—

| Port. | 1923-24 (Rs. Lakhs). | 1924-25 (Rs. Lakhs). | Percentage of the trade of the whole Presidency. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Madras ... ... ... ... | 3,918·45 | 4,290·25 | 45·29 |
| Tuticorin ... ... ... | 1,285·23 | 1,351·76 | 14·27 |
| Cochin .. ... .. ... | 1,037·73 | 1,046·18 | 11·04 |
| Calicut ... ... ... ... | 627·59 | 587·86 | 6·21 |
| Cocanada ... ... ... | 277·65 | 374·83 | 3·96 |
| Mangalore ... ... ... | 320·59 | 362·58 | 3·83 |
| Dhanushkodi ... ... ... | 275·66 | 274·14 | 2·89 |
| Cuddalore ... ... ... | 205·34 | 219·33 | 2·32 |
| Negapatam ... .. ... | 214·47 | 198·39 | 2·09 |
| Vizagapatam ... ... ... | 76·58 | 184·71 | 1·95 |
| Tellicherry ... ... ... | 118·62 | 113·55 | 1·20 |
| Cannanore ... ... .. | 105·75 | 84·22 | 0·89 |
| Badagara ... ... ... | 79·77 | 79·39 | 0·84 |
| Porto Novo ... ... .. | 55·09 | 66·43 | 0·70 |
| Bimlipatam ... ... ... | 23·04 | 34·93 | 0·37 |
| Kulasekarapatnam ... .. | 22·17 | 13·20 | 0·14 |
| Other ports ... . ... | 186·40 | 190·67 | 2·01 |
| Total ... | 8,830·14 | 9,472·42 | 100·00 |

It will be noticed that at Madras the value of the sea-borne trade on private account represented 45 per cent of the total trade of the Presidency. At that port, the foreign trade increased from

Rs. 3,115·81 lakhs to Rs. 3,330·51 lakhs, or by 7 per cent.

Shipping

183. The total number of vessels engaged in foreign trade which entered and were cleared increased from 2,801 to 2,878 and their tonnage from 3·54 million tons to 3·59 million tons. British vessels made up 75 per cent of the total tonnage and British Indian and Native craft 3 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels declined from 24 to 22 per cent. Foreign trade

Freight

An all round increase in the rates of freight on general cargo took place on the 15th November. In April 1924 the rate on groundnuts to Marseilles was 30*s.* which declined to 22*s.* 6*d.* at the beginning of May and had risen to 40*s.* by the second week of December. Subsequently there was a decline, the closing rate for the year being 25*s.* The rate for the United Kingdom and other continental countries was 2*s.* 6*d.* higher. The rate for castor seeds was 2*s.* 6*d.* higher and for niger seeds 5*s.* higher than for groundnuts.

Coasting trade

The number of entries from coasting ports declined from 17,453 aggregating 7,042,168 tons to 16,299 aggregating 7,544,929 tons. The number of clearances to coasting ports was 16,466 amounting to 7,572,712 tons as against 17,515 amounting to 7,088,474 tons in the previous year. Fifteen vessels amounting in all to 375 tons were built and registered during the year, the previous year's figures being 20 vessels of 880 tons.

Finance

Receipts

184. The total receipts from customs rose from Rs. 317·95 lakhs to Rs. 372·15 lakhs, or by 17 per cent.

Disbursements

The total disbursements of the Customs Department throughout the Presidency rose from Rs. 14,92,838 to Rs. 52,47,290 in the year under report.

Customs offences

185. The number of cases of customs offences including those under the Merchandise Marks Act was 1,448; the number in the previous year was 1,440.

## PUBLIC WORKS

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1924-25*].

### GENERAL (1924-25)

**Administrative changes**

186. During the year under report there were no important changes in the territorial limits of the Public Works Department Circles and Divisions.

A special division and five subdivisions were formed in the Trichinopoly Circle for closing the breaches in the Cauvery and the Coleroon river banks caused by the floods in July 1924. In the latter part of the year a division was formed in the Coimbatore Circle to look after the preliminary works required in connexion with the Cauvery-Metur Project and another for the execution of the Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

**Chief Engineer's office**

Consulting Architect's Section

187. The Consulting Architect's Section was engaged in its normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for important buildings. Among the chief designs prepared in the section, mention may be made of the buildings required for the new Court-house for Small Causes in the Madras Law Courts, and the Medical School at Guntūr and the hostel attached to it. The value of buildings for which detailed estimates were prepared was about 34 lakhs of rupees and the value of the buildings for which approximate estimates were furnished was about 108 lakhs of rupees. In the Deputy Consulting Architect's Section the value of buildings designed including educational schemes amounted to more than 53 lakhs of rupees. Eighty-two plans in connexion with buildings for educational purposes were scrutinized and drawings were prepared in eleven cases.

Technical Section

In the Technical Section, 145 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 175·85 lakhs were scrutinized. Of these, 99, totalling Rs. 92·64 lakhs, related to buildings ; 17, totalling Rs. 40·09 lakhs, to water-supply schemes ; 3, totalling Rs. 5·31 lakhs, to drainage schemes ; 15, totalling Rs. 30 lakhs, to

bridges and causeways; and 7, totalling Rs. 5·79 lakhs, to roads. There were in addition four miscellaneous schemes of a value of Rs. 2·02 lakhs. Among the works for which estimates were prepared, 33 were estimated to cost over a lakh of rupees each.

Electrical Section

The Electrical Engineer scrutinized 210 estimates amounting to about Rs. 3·25 lakhs. As many as 169 works were in progress during the year and the expenditure on original works was Rs. 1·22 lakhs as against Rs. 1·34 lakhs in the previous year. The total value of all the Government installations in charge of this department was Rs. 21·25 lakhs as against Rs. 19·88 lakhs in the previous year, and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 1·16 lakhs as against Rs. 1·02 lakhs. The charges for maintenance during the year represented 5·4 per cent of the capital outlay as against 6·1 per cent in the preceding year. The decrease is due to economies effected during the year and to the fall in price of certain electrical materials. The number of installations outside the Madras City is rapidly increasing with the development of electric lighting schemes in mufassal stations.

CIVIL WORKS (1924-25)

Works in progress

Buildings

188. The total expenditure on Civil works for the year including expenditure from contributions and on minor works and repairs was Rs. 61·33 lakhs as against Rs. 73·36 lakhs in the previous year. An expenditure of Rs. 14·52 lakhs was also incurred during the year towards extraordinary payments in connexion with the flood and cyclone damages of 1923 and 1924.

The total expenditure on the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, to the end of the year was Rs. 6·56 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 6·90 lakhs. The several main blocks were completed and handed over to the Medical Department. The construction of additional buildings required for the conversion of the Medical School

at Vizagapatam into a Medical College was in progress, the total expenditure to the end of the year being Rs. 1·28 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 3·82 lakhs. The foundation stone for the Medical College was laid by His Excellency the Governor on the 16th January 1925. The construction of a cattle farm at Chintaladevi and the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police and Town Police at Nellore were nearly completed during the year. A sum of Rs. ·57 lakh was spent on the construction of a combined Secondary and Training School for Mistresses at Mangalore, the total expenditure up to the end of the year being Rs. ·82 lakh. The estimated cost of the school is Rs. 1·61 lakhs. The total expenditure on the construction of additional hostel blocks for the Rāyapuram Medical School was Rs. 1·88 lakhs. The estimated cost is Rs. 3·69 lakhs. The expenditure during the year on the Leper Settlement at Chingleput was Rs. 1·77 lakhs and the previous outlay was Rs. 1·39 lakhs ; thus the total expenditure to the end of the year was Rs. 3·17 lakhs as against the total approximate cost of Rs. 5 lakhs for the whole scheme. The major portion of the building programme was completed. A sum of Rs. ·75 lakh was spent towards the construction of a girder bridge across the Kallār. The estimated cost is Rs. 1·03 lakhs. Improvements to the Cauvery Bridge at Trichinopoly were undertaken during the year and an outlay of Rs. ·95 lakh was incurred as against the estimated cost of Rs. 1·77 lakhs.

Water-supply and drainage

The water-supply schemes for the towns of Bellary, Chingleput, Negapatam and Rāmēsvaram were in progress during the year. A sum of Rs. 1·82 lakhs was spent on the Madura Drainage Scheme, bringing the total outlay to the end of the year to Rs. 34·01 lakhs against the estimated cost of Rs. 38·21 lakhs. About 75 per cent of the works sanctioned for the scheme have been completed. Other minor water-supply and drainage schemes involving an outlay of Rs. ·13 lakh were also in progress during the year.

Workshops

189. The value of the work of every kind done during the year in the Dowlaishweram Workshops

amounted to Rs. 1·27 lakhs as against Rs. 1·39 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease, as in the previous year, being due to restricted expenditure. In the Bezwada and Madras Workshops, the value of work turned out was Rs. ·94 lakh and Rs. 3·63 lakhs against Rs. ·49 lakh and Rs. 2·53 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The large increase in both the cases was mainly due to the manufacture of higher falling shutters for the Kistna Anicut.

A committee of officials and non-officials was appointed by Government during the year to enquire into the possibility of concentrating in two workshops (one worked by jail labour and the other by free labour) all the mechanical engineering work now done in the several workshops of the Public Works Department and in those of the other departments of Government.

190. Receipts and issues of stores at Dowlaishweram were valued at Rs. 3·33 lakhs and Rs. 3·52 lakhs, respectively. The balance of stock at the end of March 1925 was worth Rs. 1·21 lakhs. At Bezwada, the value of stores received was Rs. ·65 lakh, and the value of those issued, Rs. ·74 lakh. The balance of stock at the end of the year was worth Rs. 1·34 lakhs. At Madras, the opening balance of stock for the year was Rs. 12·54 lakhs and the closing balance Rs. 11·24 lakhs. The value of stores received was Rs. 4·74 lakhs and the value of those issued Rs. 6·04 lakhs. Stores

TRAMWAYS (1924-25)

191. The Madras Electric Tramways is the only system in the Presidency.

During the year 6 new cars were constructed. At the end of the year there were 88 tramcars, 1 special car and 1 car for carrying road metal. The daily average number of cars in service was 63, i.e., one less than in the previous year. The practice of running trailer cars ceased. During the year the cars ran 2,119,479 miles and carried 17,203,640 passengers. In the previous year,

they ran 2,087,867 miles and carried 18,425,185 passengers. It will be noticed that though the mileage increased, the number of passengers carried was less than in the previous year.

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CANALS (1924-25)

192. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·10 lakhs or Rs. ·25 lakh more than in the previous year. The increase occurred in the Gōdāvari and the Kistna canals under "Six-weeks' licence fees" and "Wharfage fees."

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IRRIGATION (1924-25)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Irrigation*]

**Gross expenditure and revenue**

193. The expenditure incurred on Irrigation works rose from Rs. 90·29 lakhs to Rs. 104·04 lakhs, and the revenue derived therefrom from Rs. 273·78 lakhs to Rs. 282·54 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was 7,109,548 acres or 218,412 acres more than in 1923-24. Productive works showed a return of 11·7 per cent on the capital outlay as compared with 13·7 per cent in the previous year and 8·12 per cent twenty-five years ago, i.e., 1899-1900.

**Irrigation works**

194. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a*) Irrigation works and (*b*) Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years.

Productive

The capital outlay on "Irrigation works—Productive" (direct and indirect) fell from Rs. 10·74 lakhs to Rs. 10·12 lakhs and was incurred chiefly

on the Gōdāvari, the Kistna and the Cauvery delta systems.

In the Gōdāvari delta system, the improvements to the Kovvur-Manjair Junction canal, the Ainapur drain and the upper portion of the Yenamadurru drain were in progress.

The work of replacing the existing 3 feet shutters of the Kistna anicut at Bezwada by shutters 6 feet high and the diversion of the Nallamada drain were the important works in progress in the Kistna delta system.

In the Cauvery delta system, the improvements to Lawford's straight cut, the construction of a regulator across the Korayar and the reconstruction of the Thoppadanaveli dam were completed, while the improvements to the lower reaches of the Cauvery from the infall of the Ayyavayyanār to the sea, the construction of a road dam between mile 14/7 to mile 16/1 of the Cauvery left flood bank above the Grand Anicut and the erection of new scouring sluices to the Grand Anicut were in progress.

The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,191,298 acres and 468,324 acres, respectively, against 3,192,022 acres and 473,557 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Productive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 178·59 lakhs and Rs. 47·04 lakhs, respectively, against Rs. 180·98 lakhs and Rs. 36·84 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 84·18 lakhs against Rs. 97·19 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 11·7 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 7·19 crores, as against 13·70 per cent in 1923-24. After deducting interest charges the profit for the year was Rs. 60·82 lakhs against Rs. 74·60 lakhs in the previous year and the accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 24·95 crores. Compared with the previous year the gross revenue showed a fall of Rs. 2·39 lakhs. This occurred mainly under the Cauvery delta system and was due to the reduction of the new settlement rates by 6¼ per cent and to the remissions granted on a large scale owing to the damage caused by floods.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

The capital outlay on Irrigation Works—Unproductive (direct and indirect) was Rs. ·62 lakh, incurred chiefly on the Rushikulya system and the Thippayapalem project.

Unproductive

The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 262,418 acres and 23,311 acres, respectively, against 266,749 acres and 22,585 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (unproductive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses inclusive of old irrigation revenue and old maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 10·52 lakhs and Rs. 4·52 lakhs against Rs. 10·21 lakhs and Rs. 3·75 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 4·09 lakhs. After deducting interest charges, the deficit for the year was Rs. 9·37 lakhs.

Remissions

The remissions granted under "Productive" and "Unproductive" works were Rs. 5,44,492 and Rs. 12,107, respectively, against Rs. 3,69,327 and Rs. 47,669 in the previous year. The areas mainly affected were the Cauvery delta and the Pālār anicut systems.

**Navigation works—Unproductive**

195. There were three works under this class, viz., the Ganjām-Gōpālpūr canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 81,574 and Rs. 3,34,931, respectively, against Rs. 80,200 and Rs. 2,98,884 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,53,357 to Government on the working of the canals against Rs. 2,18,684 in 1923-24. During the year under review, heavy expenditure was incurred on the clearance of silt in the Buckingham canal and on certain special repairs carried out to a number of lock gates.

**Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept**

196. The outlay on this class of works, including that incurred by civil officers and accounted for by the Civil Department, was Rs. 35·70 lakhs as against Rs. 32·26 lakhs in the previous year

The area charged as irrigated rose from 2,936,223 acres to 3,164,197 acres and the revenue, inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works Department, was Rs. 92·03 lakhs against Rs. 81·10 lakhs in the previous year.

Tank Restoration Scheme

The total area coming within the scope of Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year, an area of 605 square miles was investigated, bringing the total to 84,940 square miles. No new minor basins were entered upon during the year. Works were completed for 78,502 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress for 5,254 square miles and were not commenced in the balance of 1,184 square miles. Estimates for Government works were sanctioned to the extent of Rs. 2·89 lakhs, or Rs. ·22 lakh less than in the previous year. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 167·69 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3·71 lakhs or Rs. 5 lakhs, including percentage charges.

Navigation, embankment and drainage works

197. The outlay incurred on this class of works fell from Rs. 7·29 lakhs to Rs. 6·02 lakhs and the revenue from Rs. ·69 lakh to Rs. ·58 lakh.

Investigation of projects

198. The sanction of the Secretary of State to the estimate for the Cauvery-Metur project was received in March 1925. The preliminary investigation of the project for a reservoir on the Kistna at Sangameswaram had to be discontinued, pending negotiations with the Hyderabad Darbar. The investigation of the Bellary West Canal project was completed and estimates prepared. The estimate for improvements to the Girisola channel in the Ganjām district was held up pending verification of water-supply available. The estimates for the Polavaram island project were under the consideration of Government. An estimate for a similar project in the Coringa island was under examination. The revenue aspects of the Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district were under examination. The Basavanna channel project estimated to cost Rs. 4·24 lakhs for the extension of irrigation in Bellary district was sanctioned. Estimates amounting to Rs. 3·50 lakhs for improvements to the Vadavar and the Vettu vaikal were also

sanctioned. An estimate for improvements to the Viranam tank was under the consideration of Government. Estimates were under preparation for remodelling the Arkenkottah, Thadapalli and Kalingarāyan channels in the Coimbatore district and the Amarāvati channels in the same district. The Lower Bhavāni project for a storage reservoir on the Bhavāni river was recast and revised, but the alternative project for a reservoir at a higher site was also being re-examined before a final decision was made.

**Miscellaneous**

199. Owing to heavy rainfall at Mercara unprecedented floods occurred in the Cauvery in the middle of July and lasted for more than two weeks. The maximum flood was on the 28th July, when the water level at the Cauvery bridge at Trichinopoly rose to 17·6 as compared with the previous recorded maximum of 15·0. Breaches occurred almost simultaneously over a very extended area in the delta and caused great damage to irrigation works as well as to land and other property. The most serious of the breaches was one about 400 feet wide, from the Cauvery into the Coleroon above the Grand Anicut. As a result of this breach the supply of water for irrigation under the Cauvery and Vennar was cut off for some time until arrangements were made to restore a supply, by opening the old Vennar head and by partially closing the breach. The complete closing of the final gap of about 50 feet was not effected until the 11th December, but the depth was reduced sufficiently to enable water to be sent down, and with the exception of comparatively small areas the first crop was harvested and the second crop saved from entire loss. Steps were also taken to have the other breaches closed in time to make the banks safe for the north-east monsoon. Floods also occurred in Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara districts. No appreciable damage was caused to irrigation works, and steps were taken to repair such of them as were affected.

**Irrigation Advisory Board**

200. Irrigation Advisory Boards continued to exist in the Gōdāvari, Kistna and Cauvery deltas, each Board consisting of five members nominated

by Government from among the leading and influential Indian landholders of the non-official class. The functions of the Board were purely advisory.

Hydro-electric development

201. During the early months of the financial year, survey work was continued with a small staff consisting of one Assistant Engineer and four Supervisors working directly under the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. Later in the year four more Supervisors were sanctioned, and, as a result of a more detailed survey of the existing market for power, work was concentrated for the time being on the Pykara scheme in the Nilgiri district and the Pinjikavi and Pāpanāsam schemes in the south. The markets for power have been under detailed investigation. The estimates for the Pykara scheme have since been completed and submitted to Government (in October 1925).

# CHAPTER V

## REVENUE AND FINANCE (1924-25)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance*]

### REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

#### (*a*) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

**Revenue and expenditure**

202. The following statements give the figures during each of the past two years of the Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works, Civil Works, etc., not charged to Revenue, but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army and Posts and Telegraphs :—

*A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.*

| Heads of account. | Central. | | Provincial. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
| | RS. | RS. | RS. | RS. |
| I. Customs ... ... ... | 3,14,54,900 | 3,34,32,054 | ... | ... |
| II. Taxes on Income ... ... | 1,50,89,040 | 1,29,99,555 | 10,81,050 | 1,56,810 |
| III. Salt ... ... ... ... | 2,13,62,000 | 1,89,90,000 | ... | ... |
| IV. Opium ... ... ... | 13,22,504 | 12,85,005 | ... | ... |
| V. Land Revenue ... ... | ... | ... | 7,14,27,726 | 7,40,19,008 |
| VI. Excise ... ... ... | ... | ... | 5,18,87,475 | 4,90,14,108 |
| VII. Stamps— | | | | |
| A. Non-Judicial ... ... | ... | ... | 91,60,031 | 97,76,473 |
| B. Judicial ... ... | ... | ... | 1,42,39,370 | 1,43,74,891 |
| VIII. Forest ... ... ... | ... | ... | 54,15,557 | 55,73,761 |
| IX. Registration ... ... ... | ... | ... | 36,80,382 | 37,80,807 |
| X. Tributes from Indian States ... ... .. | 44,86,519 | 9,86,519 | ... | ... |
| XI. State Railways— | | | | |
| Gross receipts ... ... | 12,60,23,907 | 13,10,01,559 | ... | ... |
| Deduct—Working expenses ... ... | 7,01,74,727 | 7,03,59,187 | ... | ... |
| Net receipts ... ... | 1,77,49,180 | 5,16,42,372 | ... | ... |
| XII. Subsidized Companies ... | 1,40,224 | 235 | ... | ... |

## A.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts*—cont.

| Heads of account. | Central. | | Provincial. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
| | RS. | RS. | RS. | RS. |
| XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept ... ... .. | ... | ... | (—) 20,40,996 | (—) 37,58,709 |
| XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept ... | ... | ... | 1,24,989 | 1,10,001 |
| XVI. Interest ... ... ... | 7,77,709 | 7,08,871 | 11,17,073 | 12,80,020 |
| XVII. Administration of Justice. | ... | ... | 10,47,877 | 13,75,741 |
| XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements ... ... ... | ... | ... | 6,40,256 | 7,58,750 |
| XIX. Police ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 9,12,504 | 9,24,583 |
| XX. Ports and Pilotage ... | ... | 11 | 15 | ... |
| XXI. Education ... ... ... | ... | ... | 6,99,953 | 6,57,113 |
| XXII. Medical ... ... ... | . | ... | 4,38,301 | 3,61,051 |
| XXIII. Public Health ... ... | ... | 3,944 | 50,933 | 37,500 |
| XXIV. Agriculture ... ... ... | 3,125 | 5,092 | 3,80,323 | 2,74,873 |
| XXV. Industries ... ... ... | ... | ... | 11,61,978 | 13,49,080 |
| XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments . ... ... | 2,08,289 | 2,90,806 | 4,31,190 | 3,88,891 |
| XXVII. Currency ... ... ... | 22,166 | 9,476 | ... | ... |
| XXX. Civil Works ... ... ... | 12,402 | 31,169 | 6,01,829 | 5,92,275 |
| XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation ... ... . | 1,11,200 | 1,08,378 | 3,54,113 | 7,17,081 |
| XXXIV. Stationery and Printing ... | 1,580 | 3,251 | 2,16,540 | 2,46,403 |
| XXXV. Miscellaneous . ... ... | (—) 1,04,501 | ( ) 1,54,239 | 7,56,477 | 5,91,039 |
| XL. Extraordinary Receipts ... | 4,03,441 | ... | ... | ... |
| Total (*a*) ... | 12,49,48,886 | 12,01,79,612 | 10,38,70,125 | 10,20,21,927 |
| Contributions to the Central Government by Provincial Government ... ... ... | 3,48,00,000 | 3,48,00,000 | ( 13,48,00,000 | (—) 13,48,00,000 |
| Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments ... .. | ( ) 8,67,984 | 55,874 | 8,67,984 | ( —) 55,874 |
| Total including (*a*) ... | 15,79,80,622 | 15,53,35,516 | 12,80,38,109 | 12,77,66,053 |
| Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | 21,50,974 |
| Famine Insurance Fund. | ... | ... | 0,77,951 | 4,62,424 |
| Loans and advances by Provincial Government ... ... ... | . | ... | 21,43,071 | 21,91,960 |
| Loans between Central and Provincial Governments ... ... ... | 45,03,607 | 21,50,974 | 61,24,545 | 1,30,00,000 |
| Grand Total ... | 16,25,40,229 | 15,74,86,490 | 13,88,83,676 | 14,55,61,420 |

[1] Includes Rs. 100 being the revenue in England accounted for by the High Commissioner for India.

## B.—Central and Provincial Funds—Charges.

| Heads of account. | Central. | | Provincial. | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1923-24. | | | 1924-25. | | |
| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | India. | England. | Total. | India. | England. | Total. |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1. Customs ... ... ... ... | 12,02,881 | 13,74,372 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 2. Taxes on Income ... ... ... | 15,76,081 | 10,01,800 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 3. Salt ... ... ... ... ... | 28,06,361 | 22,25,247 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 4. Opium ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5. Land Revenue ... ... ... | ... | ... | 40,52,346 | 28,016 | 40,80,362 | 37,40,200 | 47,632 | 37,87,832 |
| 6. Excise ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 27,09,228 | 13,327 | 28,12,555 | 26,72,117 | 26,878 | 26,98,995 |
| 7. Stamps ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 5,79,396 | 1,21,788 | 7,01,184 | 6,00,365 | 2,19,898 | 8,20,263 |
| 8. Forest ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 46,83,804 | 59,648 | 46,93,452 | 39,06,015 | 98,121 | 40,04,136 |
| 8-A. Forest Capital outlay charged to Revenue ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,90,581 | ... | 2,90,581 |
| 9. Registration ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 22,63,774 | ... | 22,63,774 | 23,84,009 | ... | 23,84,009 |
| 10. State Railways ... ... ... | 59,70,821 | 39,41,376 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 11. Subsidized Companies ... ... | 51,315 | 12,688 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 12. Miscellaneous expenditure ... | 3,15,525 | 2,20,437 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept ... | ... | ... | 38,91,940 | ... | 38,91,940 | 39,77,323 | ... | 39,77,323 |
| 15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 39,34,716 | ... | 39,34,716 | 39,88,077 | ... | 39,88,077 |
| 15 (a). Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grant ... ... ... | ... | ... | 4,753 | ... | 4,753 | 5,035 | ... | 5,035 |
| 16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works ... ... ... | ... | ... | 6,646 | ... | 6,646 | 50,618 | ... | 50,618 |
| 19. Interest on ordinary debt ... | 75,77,573 | 92,25,103 | 6,60,462 | ... | 6,60,462 | 7,07,381 | ... | 7,07,381 |
| 20. Interest on other obligations ... | 18,42,253 | 24,51,207 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 21. Reduction or Avoidance of debt. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21,50,074 | ... | 21,50,074 |
| 22. General administration ... ... | 32,000 | 64,125 | 2,14,00,311 | 3,04,487 | 2,17,04,798 | 2,17,88,553 | 4,50,373 | 2,22,38,926 |
| 23. Audit ... ... ... ... ... | 5,07,898 | 5,99,533 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 24. Administration of Justice ... | ... | ... | 92,75,203 | 1,33,854 | 94,09,057 | 94,21,245 | 1,81,922 | 96,03,867 |
| 25. Jails and Convict Settlements ... | ... | ... | 30,64,086 | 10,301 | 31,04,417 | 29,20,206 | 18,451 | 29,38,657 |
| 26. Police ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | 1,98,99,007 | 1,53,382 | 2,00,52,389 | 1,93,54,934 | 2,75,232 | 1,96,30,166 |
| 27. Ports and Pilotage ... ... ... | ... | ... | 51,915 | ... | 51,915 | 36,070 | ... | 36,070 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24. Ecclesiastical — ... ... ... | 4,53,225 | 5,79,144 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 29. Political ... ... ... ... | 1,65,212 | 2,07,331 | ... | ... | 263 | 7,29,523 | 1,35,600 | ... | 3,522 | 1,30,391 | ... |
| 30. Scientific Departments ... ... | ... | ... | 1,23,990 | ... | ... | 1,04,46,463 | 1,09,01,729 | ... | 1,30,328 | 1,71,25,657 | 8,1,30,391 |
| 31. Education ... ... ... | ... | ... | 1,03,25,230 | 1,21,253 | 1,04,46,463 | 56,71,644 | 35,28,120 | 1,09,01,729 | 2,62,080 | 57,00,190 | 1,71,25,657 |
| 32. Medical ... ... ... | ... | ... | 54,37,067 | 2,34,477 | 56,71,644 | 11,70,556 | 23,34,529 | 35,28,120 | 52,403 | 23,86,092 | 57,00,190 |
| 33. Public Health ... ... ... | 30,643 | 24,615 | 31,42,477 | 37,070 | 11,70,556 | 26,71,480 | 30,37,327 | 23,34,529 | 49,188 | 30,87,515 | 23,86,092 |
| 34. Agriculture ... ... ... | 43,107 | 45,003 | 26,17,129 | 54,761 | 26,71,480 | 16,50,783 | 17,24,241 | 30,37,327 | 72,543 | 17,96,784 | 30,87,515 |
| 35. Industries ... ... ... | ... | ... | 15,40,507 | 1,01,276 | 16,50,783 | 13,80,327 | 13,56,764 | 17,24,241 | 53,406 | 14,09,515 | 17,96,784 |
| 37. Miscellaneous Departments ... | 47,387 | 57,115 | 13,05,058 | 15,269 | 13,80,327 | ... | ... | 13,56,764 | ... | ... | 14,09,515 |
| 38. Currency ... ... ... ... | 2,03,754 | 3,02,030 | ... | ... | ... | 1,05,53,342 | 78,36,074 | ... | 3,20,029 | 81,50,484 | ... |
| 41. Civil Works ... ... ... ... | 1,33,266 | 1,29,310 | 1,00,18,898 | 3,04,444 | ... | 0,47,466 | 0,23,185 | 78,36,074 | ... | 0,23,185 | 81,50,484 |
| 48. Famine Relief and Insurance ... | ... | ... | 0,47,466 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0,23,185 | ... | ... | 0,23,185 |
| 44. Territorial and Political Pensions ... ... ... | 2,86,233 | 2,81,075 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions ... ... ... | 43,821 | 2,87,736 | 50,83,087 | 2,58,330 | 53,41,017 | 52,08,981 | 52,08,981 | 53,53,141 | 3,53,141 | 56,87,122 | 56,87,122 |
| 46. Stationery and Printing ... ... | 85,089 | 57,020 | 22,50,544 | 3,16,022 | 25,72,570 | 18,90,618 | 18,90,618 | 2,44,247 | 2,44,247 | 21,34,865 | 21,34,865 |
| 47. Miscellaneous ... ... ... | 10,460 | 0,538 | 8,03,008 | 32,769 | 8,05,807 | 0,22,338 | 0,22,338 | 20,550 | 20,550 | 0,42,013 | 0,42,013 |
| 52. Extraordinary payments ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22,91,880 | 22,91,880 | ... | ... | 22,91,880 | 22,91,880 |
| Total expenditure charged to Revenue ... ... ... ... | 2,35,50,125 | 1,98,83,902 | 12,39,10,352 | 23,90,986 | 12,63,07,338 | 12,71,87,408 | 12,71,87,408 | 28,85,605 | 28,85,605 | 13,00,73,013 | 13,00,73,013 |
| 52-A. Capital outlay on Forests ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,24,277 | ... | ... | 8,24,277 | ... |
| 53. Construction of Railways ... | 1,09,88,701 | 1,25,19,517 | ... | — | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,24,277 |
| 55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works ... ... | ... | ... | 10,22,544 | ... | 10,22,544 | ... | 0,71,234 | ... | ... | 0,71,234 | 0,71,234 |
| 56 (C). Capital outlay on Industrial Development ... ... ... | ... | ... | 32,600 | ... | 32,600 | 1,95,904 | 1,95,904 | ... | ... | 1,95,904 | 1,95,904 |
| 60. Civil Works ... ... ... | ... | ... | 3,83,018 | ... | 3,83,018 | 0,05,385 | 0,05,385 | ... | ... | 0,05,385 | 0,05,385 |
| 60-A. Other Provincial works not charged to Revenue ... ... | ... | ... | 2,00,000 | ... | 2,00,000 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Total Capital Outlay ... | 1,09,88,701 | 1,25,19,517 | 10,38,831 | ... | 16,38,831 | 25,86,750 | 25,86,750 | ... | ... | 25,86,750 | 25,86,750 |
| Famine Insurance Fund ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,60,850 | ... | ... | 2,60,850 | 2,60,850 |
| Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments ... ... ... | ... | ... | 59,71,815 | ... | 59,71,815 | 88,12,612 | 88,12,612 | ... | ... | 88,12,612 | 88,12,612 |
| Loans between Central and Provincial Governments ... ... | 61,24,545 | 1,30,00,000 | 45,08,607 | ... | 45,08,607 | 21,50,974 | 21,50,974 | ... | ... | 21,50,974 | 21,50,974 |
| Grand Total (Disbursements) ... | 4,06,72,431 | 4,54,03,419 | 13,00,95,605 | 23,90,986 | 13,24,86,591 | 14,10,14,324 | 14,10,14,324 | 28,85,605 | 28,85,605 | 14,39,00,199 | 14,39,00,199 |

[These figures are subject to alteration when the Finance and Revenue accounts of the Government of India are finally made up by the Auditor-General.]

Cash balance

203. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 98 lakhs in the Exchange Treasury and in the Revenue treasuries, other than those managed by branches of the Imperial Bank of India, and closed with a balance of Rs. 102 lakhs.

(*b*) Central Revenue and Finance

General

204. The receipts on account of Central Revenue were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 26,45,106. The decrease occurred chiefly under Taxes on Income (Rs. 29·90 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 23·72 lakhs) and Tributes from Indian States (Rs. 35·00 lakhs), but this was to some extent counterbalanced by increased receipts under Customs (Rs. 19·77 lakhs) and the earnings of State Railways (Rs. 38·93 lakhs). The total decrease is, however, only apparent as the annual tribute of Rs. 35 lakhs from the Mysore State taken into account in the previous year's receipts does not appear in the accounts of the Presidency for 1924–25. The Central expenditure charged to Revenue was less than that in 1923–24 by Rs. 36,75,223, large decreases occurring under Interest on Ordinary Debt and under State Railways.

Customs

205. The improvement in the revenue under Customs during the year as compared with the previous year was chiefly due to larger collections of import duty on sugar, iron and steel and certain other articles, and the collection of duty on Government stores for the first time from April 1924. This was partly set off by a large increase under refunds due to the fact that a sum of Rs. 35 lakhs was paid to the Railway Companies in this Presidency as refund of customs duty on stores imported during the previous years, owing to the decision of the Privy Council that the stores belonging to State Railways worked by Companies are Government stores and as such exempt from duty. The increase under charges was due to the payment during the year of a larger amount of compensation to the Cochin State under the Interportal Trade Convention of 1865 based on the revenue collected at the Port of Cochin, the employment of a larger temporary staff on the

land frontiers round Pondicherry for the prevention of smuggling, and the payment of larger rewards in land customs cases.

Taxes on income

206. The decrease under receipts was due to the small amount of arrears outstanding at the beginning of the year as compared with those at the beginning of the previous year. Leaving arrears out of consideration, there was a substantial increase in the receipts due partly to a slight revival in trade and partly to more efficient administration by the Special Department. The charges during the previous year included a sum of Rs. 10,45,949 paid to the Madras Government for work done by the Provincial staff in 1921–22 and 1922–23 in districts not taken over by the Special Income-tax Department, while the amount paid on this account in 1924–25 was only Rs. 3,67,599. If these figures are excluded, the charges during the year showed an increase. This was due to the extension of the operations of the Special Income-tax Department to the districts of South Kanara, Malabar, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Salem, Tanjore, North Arcot, South Arcot, Chittoor, Nellore and Kistna with effect from the 1st April 1924.

Salt

207. The Salt Department was constituted a separate department during the year under report. Since 1884–85 the Salt and Abkāri departments had been administered by a joint staff. Under the Reforms, "Salt" became a Central subject and "Excise" a Provincial—Transferred subject. The administration of the two departments by a joint staff was therefore open to objection and a separate Salt Department for the administration of the salt revenue was formed with effect from the 1st April 1924 and it was placed in charge of an I.C.S. officer with the designation of Collector of Salt Revenue.

The quantity of salt produced during the year was 11 million maunds against 13½ million maunds in the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to untimely rains. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 10 million maunds and the quantity imported, mainly from Bombay,

was 2 million maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was, therefore, 23 million maunds. The issues during the year increased from 13 million maunds in the previous year to 15 million maunds. The reason for the increase was the reduction in duty from March 1924. The wholesale price of excise salt decreased on the average from 3 annas 9 pies a maund in the previous year to 3 annas 5 pies a maund during the year, while there was a slight increase in the price of Government salt from 4 annas 9 pies a maund to 4 annas 10 pies a maund. The retail prices at the headquarter stations also showed a decrease due to the reduction in the rate of duty.

Of the total quantity of salt manufactured during the year, nearly 2 million maunds were Government salt and 9 million maunds were excise salt as against 3 million maunds and 10½ million maunds, respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of salt imported by sea, mainly from Bombay, rose from 1,419,853 maunds to 1,877,985 maunds, and that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa from 276,498 maunds to 321,693 maunds, respectively. The issues of locally manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied rose from 11,885,770 maunds to 13,759,475 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea to Ceylon was 50,000 maunds as against 20,620 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued for fish-curing purposes rose from 279,462 maunds to 345,990 maunds. The quantities issued to the French Government and the Travancore Darbar during the year were 65,352 maunds and 459,846 maunds, respectively, as against 63,844 maunds and 438,628 maunds in the previous year.

The decrease in receipts was chiefly due to the reduction of duty from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 1-4-0 a maund from March 1924 and the refund of differential duty collected on salt sold during March 1924.

Till the beginning of the year, the charges for the combined Salt and Abkāri Department on account of establishment, supplies, services and contingencies and works were shared by the two

departments in the ratio of 1 : 2. After the separation, the charges on account of the Salt Department were wholly debited to Central. The charges during the year showed a decrease as compared with the previous year, made up of Rs. 1·06 lakhs under "Pay of officers and establishment," Rs. 1·07 lakhs under "Allowances, supplies and services," and Rs. 4·01 lakhs under "Salt purchase and freight," partly counterbalanced by an increase of Rs. ·33 lakh under "Salt works." The large decrease under "Salt purchase and freight" was due to the fact that, owing to large stocks in some factories, it was not necessary for Government to purchase large quantities of salt and also to the fact that, owing to an unfavourable season, the dittam was not reached in other factories.

**Net receipts from State Railways**

208. The improvement of Rs. 38·93 lakhs in the net receipts from State Railways was chiefly due to increase in the earnings from goods traffic in the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.

**Contributions and miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments**

209. The total amount paid to the Central Government by the Provincial Government in 1924-25 was Rs. 3,48,55,874 made up of (*a*) Rs. 3,48,00,000 being the fixed contribution paid to the Central Government under rule 17 of the Devolution Rules, and (*b*) Rs. 55,874 being the amount of expenses incurred on the training of probationers for the Indian Forest Service.

**Capital outlay on State Railways**

210. The decrease in the capital outlay on State Railways not charged to revenue was chiefly due to a decrease in the suspense balances and expenditure on rolling stock in the South Indian Railway partly counterbalanced by increased expenditure on structural works in the South Indian and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways.

**Loans and advances by the Central Government**

211. The opening balance under Loans and Advances by the Central Government on the 1st April 1924 was Rs. 1,74,06,870. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 6,71,240, the chief items

being Rs. 2,32,467 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,47,842 by the Madras Port Trust, Rs. 1,05,115 by the Madras Coast Lights Fund and Rs. 48,238 by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,67,35,630. On the 31st March 1925, the sinking fund, constituted for the loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation, held Government securities of the face value of Rs. 18,73,800.

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN CENTRAL

**Provincial balance**

212. The Provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 12,52,473 on the 1st April 1924 and closed with a balance of Rs. 29,13,693 on the 31st March 1925.

**Provincial revenues**

213. The receipts on account of Provincial revenues were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 21,72,056. This decrease occurred chiefly under Excise, Irrigation (due to larger working expenses taken as deduction from receipts) and Taxes on Income, though it was to some extent counterbalanced by increased receipts under Land Revenue and Stamps (both non-Judicial and Judicial). Expenditure on the other hand increased by Rs. 37,65,675, large increases occurring under Public Health, Education, Reduction or Avoidance of Debt and extraordinary charges incurred on account of flood and cyclone damages. These were largely set off by savings under Police, Stationery and Printing and Civil Works.

**Land revenue**

214. The large increase of Rs. 25·92 lakhs over the receipts of the previous year is mainly due to the introduction of resettlement rates in the Tanjore district, collection of postponed revenues in Bellary and better collections generally in all districts except those affected by unfavourable season or floods.

**Excise**

215. For information about Excise revenue, see infra under Excise Administration.

**Stamps**

216. The increase was made up of Rs. 6·07 lakhs under non-judicial stamps and Rs. 1·39 lakhs under judicial stamps.

Taxes on income

217. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules, the provincial share of the income-tax receipts amounted to Rs. 10·81 lakhs in 1923–24. The receipts in 1924–25 amounted only to Rs. 1·57 lakhs.

Forests

218. The increase in revenue under Forests was chiefly due to the extraction and sale of a larger quantity of sandalwood and timber.

Registration

219. There was a small growth of Rs. 1·03 lakhs during the year under Registration receipts, as a result of the registration of a larger number of documents relating to movable and immovable property.

Canal revenue

220. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 2·98 lakhs, or Rs. 0·13 lakh more than in the previous year.

Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments

221. The decrease of Rs. 9·24 lakhs was due to the fact that a special adjustment on account of arrears of the income-tax assignment from the Government of India to this Government was made in the accounts of 1923–24, but this has not been repeated in 1924–25. Further, the accounts for 1923–24 included a contribution of Rs. 3·40 lakhs from the Government of India for payment of grants to the Lawrence Memorial School, but these do not appear in the Provincial accounts from 1924–25.

Provincial expenditure

222. The increase under Public Health was due to larger payments of grants to local bodies for water-supply and drainage schemes, while that under Education is due to large grants to local bodies for primary education. All charges incurred in connection with the floods and cyclone damages such as relief of distress and reconstruction of works are shown under a new head "Extraordinary payments."

Famine relief and insurance

223. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules the Provincial Government is required to make every year, with effect from 1921–22, a provision of Rs. 6·61 lakhs in the budget estimate for expenditure upon relief of, and insurance against, famine. The amount is to be expended only upon the relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the

prevention of famine. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilized in building up a Famine Insurance Fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India which will pay interest on it: and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on any of the objects mentioned above and also for the grant of advances to cultivators. The opening balance at the credit of the Fund on the 1st April 1924 was Rs. 12,40,309. In 1924-25, advances on account of takkavi loans amounting to Rs. 2,66,687 were made from the Fund, while the expenditure on the other objects mentioned above amounted to Rs. 2,64,379 and the balance of the famine insurance grant was transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund. The amount of interest on the balances of the Fund credited during the year was Rs. 55,640. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 14,25,883.

**Loans and advances by the Provincial Government**

224. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 2,28,86,053 and closed with a balance of Rs. 2,95,06,696. Advances to cultivators amounted to Rs. 40,49,226 as against Rs. 25,06,898 in the previous year. A loan of Rs. 4,59,600 was also sanctioned under State Aid to Industries Act. The Madras Corporation and the Tuticorin Port Conservancy Board received loans of Rs. 11,50,000 and Rs. 9,00,000, respectively. The loans granted to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, markets, hospitals, drainage works, etc., amounted to Rs. 14,82,250. Advances for purchase of house-sites amounting to Rs. 2,07,542 were also sanctioned in the year. Loans to house-building co-operative societies and Kallar co-operative societies amounting to Rs. 4,03,619 and Rs. 1,59,793 were also disbursed during the year.

**Loans between Central and Provincial Governments**

225. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Government of India under rule 25 of the Devolution Rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 130 lakhs carrying interest at $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent per annum. The amount repaid to the Government of

India was Rs. 21,50,974 which is made up of Rs. 9,50,000 on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account and Rs. 12,00,974 in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken in 1921-22, 1922-23 and 1923-24 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure.

Local funds

226. The following table summarizes the transactions of funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to the general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial):—

*Statement showing the transactions of the Local Funds for the year 1924-25*

| Name of the fund. | Opening balance on 1st April 1924. | Receipts, 1924-25. | Charges, 1924-25. | Closing balance, cash on 31st March 1925. | Invested balance at the credit of the fund (including promissory notes, Post office cash certificates and fixed deposits with the Imperial Bank of India, Madras). |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. |
| 1. Bhadrachalam-Nagar Special Fund ... ... | 10,625 14 3 | 9,510 11 6 | 20,965 1 6 | 8,171 11 3 | 13,000 0 0 |
| 2. Irrigation Cess Fund ... ... | 53,103 13 7 | 57,639 6 5 | 63,195 13 1 | 47,317 6 11 | ... |
| 3. Port and Marine Funds — The Madras Port Fund ... ... | 2,451 8 0 | 2,00,074 0 1 | 1,93,957 15 0 | 9,470 9 4 | 24,200 0 0 |
| 4. The Minor Ports Fund ... ... | 5,88,902 13 3 | 6,00,732 5 5 | 6,81,072 11 10 | 3,07,722 6 10 | 13,40,020 0 0 |
| 5. The Cochin Port Fund ... ... | 96,771 0 0 | 1,51,947 11 11 | 1,44,249 8 7 | 1,01,420 3 4 | 1,51,590 0 0 |
| 6. The Minor Pilotage Fund. | 3,580 12 6 | 14,192 11 0 | 13,804 7 5 | 3,785 0 1 | 1,70,000 0 0 |
| 7. Landing and Shipping Dues Fund ... ... | 3,55,745 3 0 | 26,75,670 7 4 | 22,57,931 11 9 | 7,73,140 14 7 | 10,27,820 0 0 |
| 8. The Madras Coasts Lights Fund ... ... | 1,80,775 3 6 | 2,75,510 15 1 | 3,19,879 11 3 | 1,36,421 7 1 | 1,60,000 0 0 |
| 9. Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund ... | 2,745 4 0 | 5,111 10 10 | 3,073 13 11 | 4,183 0 11 | 8,000 0 0 |
| 10. The Tuticorin Port Fund | 6,120 0 3 | 1,19,135 13 1 | 60,020 5 6 | 61,011 7 10 | 6,000 0 0 |
| 11. The Tuticorin Port Trust Fund ... ... | ... | 5,18,131 4 5 | 98,111 9 0 | 4,19,716 11 5 | 12,000 0 0 |
| 12. University Fee Fund | 1,18,901 14 5 | 5,32,152 2 8 | 5,20,309 5 5 | 1,21,711 11 8 | 11,41,800 0 0 |
| 13. Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund ... ... | 3,512 5 4 | 12,886 6 1 | 12,167 5 9 | 4,233 6 8 | ... |

*Statement showing the transactions of the Local Funds for the year 1924-25—cont.*

| Name of the fund. | Opening balance on 1st April 1924. | Receipts, 1924-25. | Charges, 1924-25. | Closing balance, cash on 31st March 1925. | Invested balance at the credit of the funds (including promissory notes, Post office cash certificates and fixed deposits with the Imperial Bank of India, Madras). |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. | RS. A. P. |
| 14. Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund ... | 8,261 15 4 | 41,211 15 5 | 42,197 0 0 | 7,276 14 9 | 1,00,100 0 0 |
| 15. Cantonment Funds ... ... | 2,68,862 0 8 | 5,57,009 15 10 | 7,98,867 8 0 | 27,004 8 6 | ... |
| 16. Secunderabad [illegible] Hospital Civil [illegible] Fund ... ... | [illegible] 0 | 1,30,857 8 6 | 1,67,396 11 11 | 19,568 4 7 | ... |
| 17. Secunderabad Local Abkari Fund ... ... | 2,69,520 14 11 | 10,13,827 6 10 | 8,43,346 [illegible] the ye[illegible] | 4,40,001 6 6 | ... |
| 18. Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund ... ... | 1,20,104 1 4 | 1,59,064 3 2 | 1,36,927 4 7 | 1,42,240 15 11 | ... |

227. For information about Local Funds constituted under Act V of 1884, see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

## Municipal Revenues

228. See supra Chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal), and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

## Excise Administration

[*Report on the Administration of the Abkāri Department for the year 1924-25*]

**General**

229. The combined Salt and Abkāri Department which had been in existence since 1884-85 was, with effect from 1st April 1924, divided into separate departments of Excise and Salt. Though no difficulty was experienced in the internal working of the combined department, bifurcation was considered advisable on account of Salt having become a Central Reserved subject and Excise

a Provincial Transferred subject. The Excise Department was separated also from the Board of Revenue and placed in charge of a Commissioner of Excise who continued to be a Member of the Board of Revenue. The separation has also resulted in the abolition of the posts of Deputy Commissioners and a general reduction in establishment, both in the superior and subordinate service.

During the year there was no interference by non-co-operators, but the local agents of the Nadar Sangam in the Tinnevelly district threw obstacles in the way of the proper working of shops, by social restrictions and boycott. The Reddiyar population of Kuttuparai of Aruppukkōttai taluk picketed the arrack shop for four days in August 1924, but on being advised by the Magistrate and Police they gave up picketing.

An experiment of closing all arrack shops in toddy-drinking areas is being tried for a period of three years from 1st April 1924 in the Shiyali and Tirutturaippūndi taluks of Tanjore district, Tiruvādanai taluk of Rāmnād district, Tenkāsi taluk of Tinnevelly district and in the Attūr taluk of Salem district. The result of the first year's working of the experiment was not conclusive.

In order to ameliorate the condition of the hill tribes on the Nilgiris an experiment has been under trial in that district since 1st April 1924 under which the sale of liquor of any kind to any member of the hill tribes is prohibited except on a medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner. The shopkeepers on the Nilgiris and also in the adjoining taluks of the neighbouring districts are required to take all reasonable measures to prevent liquor from the shops being passed on to any member of the hill tribes. It is impossible to judge on the strength of a year's experience whether this experiment resulted in any improvement of the status, economic or otherwise, of the tribes for whose benefit it is intended.

Considerable interest was evinced by temperance leagues and the public in the working of the department.

**Country spirits**

230. With the exception of certain Agency tracts, the whole of the Presidency was under the contract distillery system. There were no changes in the areas of supply or in the rates of duty except in the Polavaram division, where duty was enhanced from As. 14 to Re. 1 per gallon of 60° u.p. liquor.

Consumption

The number of shops opened fell from 5,932 to 5,815. Licit consumption of country spirits decreased from 1,528,381 to 1,462,118 proof gallons, being 0·035 proof gallon per head of population. The fall in consumption was due to a certain extent to unfavourable season and economic distress in various parts of the Presidency; the experimental closure of all arrack shops in five taluks of the Presidency and the prohibition of sale of liquor to the hill tribes on the Nilgiris except on a medical certificate were also contributory causes.

Revenue

The total revenue from country spirits decreased from Rs. 216·32 lakhs to Rs. 204·60 lakhs, the decrease occurring both under rentals and duty.

Agency tracts

In the Agency tracts, 113 shops under the outstill and central distillery system were sold for Rs. 2·73 lakhs against 110 shops for Rs. 2·18 lakhs in 1923–24.

**Toddy**

231. The tree-tapping system was extended to one more village in the Bhadrāchalam taluk (Agency tract) during the year The sweet toddy rules introduced in 1921 in Polavaram and Yellavaram taluks worked satisfactorily, but the industry carried on by the Gumallos and Udigas in the Polavaram taluk was reported not to be flourishing. There was no change in the rates of tree-tax.

Revenue

The number of shops decreased from 10,531 in 1923–24 to 10,432 in 1924–25. The total revenue fell from Rs. 241·69 lakhs to Rs. 227·55 lakhs, the decrease occurring both under rentals and tree-tax.

Consumption

The number of trees tapped up to July 1925 expressed in terms of coconuts (2 coconuts are considered = 3 palmyras = 3 dates = 1 sago) was 21·45 lakhs as compared with 22·39 lakhs in 1923–24.

The licit consumption per head of population was roughly 2·49 gallons against 2·57 gallons in the previous year.

232. The excise duty on spirits resembling in colour and flavour, gin, brandy, whisky or rum manufactured in the Madras Presidency or manufactured in other provinces of British India and imported into this Presidency was reduced from Rs. 21-14-0 to Rs. 17-8-0 per proof gallon with effect from 1st April 1924. The rates of duty on locally made rectified spirits as well as on imported spirits remained unaltered. **Foreign liquor**

The quantity of foreign liquor imported by sea increased by 43,603 gallons. The quantity of foreign spirits locally manufactured issued during the year was 15,834 proof gallons against 9,246 proof gallons in the previous year. The total issues of beer from the local breweries fell from 562,000 to 394,000 gallons, the export to places outside the Presidency being 6,462 gallons. The import from Bangalore amounted to 58,096 gallons. The issues of locally made rectified spirits decreased from 24,805 to 23,195 gallons. Consumption

During the year a licence was issued to Messrs. W. E. Smith & Co. (now Messrs. Spencer & Co.), Madras, to open a pharmaceutical laboratory at Madras for the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations under bond. The operations in the laboratory were supervised by an establishment of one Sub-Inspector and one peon. The duty on the spirits contained in the medicinal preparations was assessed at the rate of Rs. 5 per proof gallon and the duty so collected during the year amounted to Rs. 9,455. Medicinal preparations

Spirituous medicinal preparations were also imported into Madras from Bengal by sea and from Mysore by land and the duty collected at the rate of Rs. 5 per proof gallon on the spirits contained in such preparations amounted to Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 4,367, respectively.

The total revenue under foreign liquor decreased from Rs. 13·26 lakhs to Rs. 11·83 lakhs. Revenue

233. 605 shops were sold for the year against 608 shops in the previous year. **Opium**

REVENUE AND FINANCE

Revenue

The issues of opium within the Presidency fell from 35,001 to 34,958 seers. The revenue credited to "opium" and the gain on sale-proceeds credited to "excise" amounted to Rs. 12·85 lakhs and Rs. 16·37 lakhs, respectively, against Rs. 13·23 lakhs and Rs. 17·44 lakhs in the previous year. The amount of shop rentals and miscellaneous revenue credited to "excise" was Rs. 10·30 lakhs against Rs. 10·35 lakhs in the previous year. The total excise revenue realized by the Excise Department decreased from Rs. 41·02 lakhs to Rs. 39·52 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population was 1 anna 5 pies. The average consumption per head of population was 0·066 tola.

**Intoxicating drugs**

234. The cultivation of the hemp plant was carried on over an area of 1244 acres at Santavasal in North Arcot district and of 120 acres at Santaravur in Guntūr district. The outturn was 675 maunds of ganja and 18 maunds of bhang at Santavasal and 711 maunds of ganja and 8 maunds 29 seers of bhang at Santaravur.

Ganja and bhang

423 shops were sold against 424 in the previous year.

Consumption

Consumption of hemp drugs decreased from 38,285 seers to 32,676 seers, i.e., from 0·072 tola per head of population to 0·062 tola.

Revenue

The total revenue derived from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 13·17 lakhs (it was Rs. 14·93 lakhs in the previous year).

Cocaine

The number of cocaine licences issued during the year was 214 against 185 licences issued in the previous year, the quantity consumed being 3 lb. 9 oz. and 91 grains against 2 lb. 3 oz. and 129 grains in the previous year. The increase in sales is due to the extension of ophthalmic and dental surgery in Madras.

**Offences**

235. The number of recorded offences against abkāri laws increased from 15,918 to 17,050.

Illicit distillation cases increased from 2,123 to 2,131. Of the 2,131 cases, 711 cases were reported from the Circars, 248 from Guntūr and Nellore districts, 379 from the Ceded districts and Kurnool, 400 from Salem and Coimbatore districts, 317 from the West Coast and the remaining 76 from the other districts.

Under illicit manufacture of toddy 7,215 cases were reported against 6,427 in the previous year.

Offences under unlicenced possession, transport and sale of liquor increased from 5,413 to 5,594.

Hemp drug offences increased from 404 to 514 cases. Of these, 142 (118) cases related to unlicensed possession of hemp drugs. There was also an increase in the number of cases reported under illicit cultivation of the hemp plant 88 (77), smuggling 120 (62), illicit transport 29 (19) and unlicensed sale 120 (92). The cause for the increase was the inferiority of the Vetapalem ganja supplied to the shopkeepers. In the 120 cases of smuggling, the drug was mostly brought in from the Mysore State.

One case of smuggling of cocaine involving 10 grains was detected by the Customs staff, and the accused, a gunner of S.S. *Nagina*, was sentenced to undergo two months' imprisonment by the Presidency Magistrate, Georgetown.

The number of convictions under the Opium Act decreased from 218 to 183 and the value of the confiscated articles amounted to Rs. 4,503 (Rs. 10,558). Seven (14) cases of smuggling were detected, but these cases were not of much importance. The Burma Bureau reported four seizures involving about 9 seers at Rangoon on vessels arriving from the ports of this Presidency and on search of two suspected persons from this Presidency.

# CHAPTER VI

## VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

### DETAILS OF CENSUS

236. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

### BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1924)

[*The sixty-first annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1924; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1924–25; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics*]

**Population**

237. The population of the Presidency according to the census of 1921 was 42,759,827 exclusive of Europeans and Anglo-Indians, who numbered 34,328. On the basis of the increases in the past between one census and another, the population in 1924 is estimated at 43,117,421, whereas according to natural increase, reckoned by adding to the population at the last census, the excess of births over deaths in the years 1922, 1923 and 1924, the figure is 44,288,628.

**Registration of vital statistics**

238. The large difference between the two estimates is to be ascribed to the absence of any system of registration of vital statistics in the major part of the Agency and to defective registration in the rest of the Presidency. Even in municipalities where registration is compulsory and where usually a special staff is employed for the purpose, registration has been unsatisfactory in many cases. This is to a large extent due to the employment of ill-qualified and incompetent registrars. In rural areas, registration was still more defective. This is clearly illustrated by the fact that the health staff in the various districts detected 63,783 unregistered births.

Births

239. The number of births registered in 1924 was 1,430,858, an increase of 72,110 over the number in 1923. Calculated on the population in 1921, as given by the census, but deducting the population in the Agency, Laccadive Islands, Banganapalle and Pudukkōttai States, these figures mean that the birth-rate in 1924 was 34·90 per mille. The correct average rate for the Presidency is estimated to be 42·5 per mille and, though the figure for 1924 does not approach that rate, at all events it is an increase of 6·1 over the recorded average for the quinquennium. This remarkable increase is chiefly due to the efforts of the district health staffs to detect unregistered births.

The birth-rate in Madras City was 44·3 per mille.

The ratio of females to males born in the Presidency was 100 to 104·2.

More births took place in the third quarter of the year than in any other. This circumstance has been noticed in previous years.

In rural towns, of which there were 214 for which returns were received, the birth-rate was 34·0 per mille. Great improvement seems to have been made in registration in these towns during recent years, e.g., in 1922, 136 towns registered a birth-rate of less than 30, but in 1924 only 69 have been placed in that category.

In municipalities, where registration is compulsory, the average recorded birth-rate was 37·5 per mille. The average for the quinquennium was 34·2.

Influence of prices on births

The prices of staple food-grains were higher than in the previous year. Trichinopoly, Salem and Anantapur were the only districts which had a decrease in the birth-rate. The decrease in Anantapur may be attributed to famine in several parts of the district and in Salem partly to economic distress. The decrease in Trichinopoly appears to have been due to poor registration.

Deaths

240. The birth-rate was higher than the death-rate in every district, except the Nilgiris, which had a higher death-rate than any other district. The total number of deaths registered was 1,006,043.

This gives a ratio of 24·5 per mille as compared with an average of 25·1 in the decennium and an average of 22·2 in 1923.

The proportion of females to males who died was 100 to 103·2.

The registered death-rate of infants was 179·2 per mille of registered births The average for the quinquennium was 171·0. According to the returns, more infants die less than a week after birth than at any other of the classified periods up to twelve months.

The average rate of death in rural towns was 24·1 per mille, according to the returns. The rate varies with different towns, but there appears to have been some improvement in registration in recent years.

The average death-rate in municipalities was 32·2 per mille, the average for the quinquennium being 32·7. The average death-rate of infants in municipalities was 209·9 per mille against a rate of 227·3 in the quinquennium.

The following table shows the birth- and death-rates of the different communities:—

| | Birth-rate. | Death-rate. |
|---|---|---|
| Hindus ... ... ... ... | 34·7 | 24·7 |
| Muhammadans ... ... ... | 37·6 | 24·4 |
| Christians ... ... ... | 34·1 | 21·5 |

**Chief diseases**

Cholera

241. There has been a large increase in the number of deaths from cholera. In 1923 there were 5,169 persons who died from this disease; in 1924 there were 51,971, the highest number since 1918. The districts most affected were Tinnevelly, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Madura, Anantapur and Bellary. The largest number of deaths was in Tinnevelly. The large increase in deaths from this disease was due partly to the unfavourable conditions of the season and drought in a part of the Presidency, partly to unprotected systems of water-supply in several municipalities, and partly to the disastrous floods in certain districts. But investigations have shown that cholera in this Presidency occurs in waves with a periodicity of six years. This fact may explain, to a certain degree, the large number of deaths in 1924.

There have been signs that the public are beginning to recognize the value of preventive measures. In the Anantapur district, over 5,000 contacts were inoculated with anti-cholera vaccine. Only five of these took cholera, of whom four died, but all the five must have been infected before inoculation. In one village in the Tinnevelly district, 400 persons out of 1,200 were inoculated, and cholera, which had been present in the village for some time, shortly afterwards disappeared. And in both the Tinnevelly and the Coimbatore districts, the health staff received much help from the local authorities. Festivals and weekly markets have contributed largely to the spread of the disease, but the District Health Officers have now a fairly good idea of the main centres of infection. Preventive measures

There were 18,810 deaths from smallpox during the year. This gives a figure of 0·4 per mille, the quinquennial average being 0·5 per mille. The number of deaths in 1923 was 24,434. Forty per cent of the deaths were those of children under one year old and a further 36 per cent (approximately) those of children between one and ten years old. Statistics recorded during the last forty years have shown that the disease tends to appear in cycles of six to nine years and that mortality tends to reach its maximum in March. Whatever the causes of these phenomena may be, they are useful as a guide to those responsible for vaccination work. The continued prevalence of smallpox in municipalities shows that compulsory vaccination, if unenforced, is of little use. Smallpox

The total number of deaths from plague reported during the year was 3,922, one of the lowest figures on record. The evil reputation of Coimbatore, Salem and Madura continued ; 83 per cent of the deaths in the Presidency were in these three districts. Plague

During the year, 322,356 deaths, i.e., 7·9 per mille, were recorded as due to "fevers," but these figures cannot be considered accurate, as it is still common to find deaths from a variety of causes registered under this head. Owing to an outbreak of relapsing fever, the Nilgiris had a higher death-rate, 20·6 per mille, than any other district. This Fevers

rate is more than twice the quinquennial average. But, owing to energetic measures from August 1924 onwards, the disease had almost disappeared from the Nilgiris by the end of the year.

Dysentery and diarrhœa

The number of deaths during the year registered as due to dysentery and diarrhœa was 74,941, which gives a rate of 1·8 per mille. The rate per mille in the previous year was 1·5. The close relationship between the incidence of this group and of cholera, noticed in previous years, has continued to exist.

Respiratory diseases

The number of deaths registered as due to "respiratory diseases" was 64,782 (1·6 per mille) as compared with 55,951 (1·4 per mille) in 1923. The heading "respiratory diseases" gives shelter to a variety of diseases not necessarily of the respiratory system. The incidence of tubercular disease of the lungs has been suspected to be generally high.

Rabies

According to the registers, rabies was responsible for 364 deaths. As usual, the largest number of deaths (56) from this cause was in Malabar. Next came Tanjore with 55 deaths.

Hookworm

The ankylostomiasis (hookworm) campaign, commenced in 1920, continued its operations. The investigations made up to the end of 1924 disclosed that hookworm infection is ubiquitous in the Presidency.

Child-births

During 1924, 2,600 deaths were registered from causes related to "child-birth." There is reason to believe that this figure represents but a small proportion of the actual number. In many districts, deaths arising from child-birth are still registered under "fevers" or "other causes." In the child-bearing age group, 15 –39, the number of registered deaths among women amounted to 12·0 per mille as compared with 10·9 per mille among the males of the same age groups. Inaccurate as it may be, this relatively excessive female mortality and the fact that out of every 1,000 births only 42 of the mothers received skilled aid during labour, clearly indicate that measures for maternal relief are not yet adequate.

Other causes

Deaths from "other causes" numbered 456,161 compared with 420,018 in 1923.

242. There were 49 births and 25 deaths registered under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886. These relate to Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Indian Christians and Brahmos and include 16 births and 1 death of Europeans in Native States. There were 190 births and 108 deaths of Europeans registered under the Madras City and District Municipalities Acts and under the Cantonment Code. **Europeans and Anglo-Indians**

243. The District Health staffs have been endeavouring to educate the people in the principles and practice of hygiene, and advantage has been taken of the large gatherings at fairs and festivals to give lectures and organize small exhibitions. In a number of centres where Teachers' Associations existed, instruction in hygiene was given to batches of teachers. A "Health Week" was organized during the Pongal holidays with considerable success. Though certain fairs and festivals contributed to the spread of cholera during the year, the fact that the majority of such gatherings passed off without any ill-effects upon the public health demonstrates the improvement effected by the District Health staffs in the arrangements made. **Health propaganda**

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## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1924)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1924 (G.O. No. 1578, Law (General), dated 12th May 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Emigration*]

244. The emigration of unskilled labour from this Presidency is confined to Malaya and Ceylon. There was no emigration of skilled labour during the year. Madras and Negapatam are the ports of emigration to Malaya. The returns show that emigration from both ports was greater in 1924 than in 1923. In 1924 there were, in all, 48,188 emigrants despatched to Malaya. The number in 1923 was 35,827. All emigrants to Ceylon went from Dhanushkodi. The labourers who go to **Regulated**

Ceylon are almost exclusively for employment in the tea and rubber estates. Ninety-nine per cent of them are Tamils. The number of emigrants to Ceylon exceeded that of any previous year: it was 100,250. By far the largest proportion of emigrants to that country were Adi-Drāvidas (depressed classes); they formed 42 per cent of the total. The increase in emigration, both to Malaya and to Ceylon, appears to have been due to the bad season.

**Health**

245. The general health of the emigrants to Malaya was satisfactory. There was an epidemic of cholera at the Avadi depôt (Madras) which was controlled in time. There was also an outbreak of cholera at Negapatam and the depôt was closed from the 13th June to the 22nd July 1924. There were ten cases of cholera at Mandapam camp (Dhanushkodi, for Ceylon), all imported from infected parts of the recruiting area. The excellence of the arrangements at this camp prevented the outbreak of a serious epidemic.

There were 1,082 persons who returned from Natal during the year; of these, 266 brought savings amounting to £13,211.

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## MEDICAL RELIEF (1924)

[*Annual report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1924; Annual report of the Medical College, 1924-25; Annual report of the King Institute, Guindy, for 1923-24; Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Hospitals*]

**General**

246. The year under report was specially noteworthy, in that medical relief was extended to rural areas by subsidizing private medical practitioners. By this system, these practitioners are granted subsidies or honoraria and provided with medicines also if they agree to settle down in specified villages. An additional subsidy is given to those medical men who engage and maintain a qualified midwife.

The system of appointing qualified and suitable private medical practitioners as Honorary Physicians and Surgeons has been introduced in the Presidency State Hospitals in Madras and it is reported to have worked satisfactorily.

247. At the beginning of the year there were 768 medical institutions of all classes in the Presidency. During the year, 14 new dispensaries were opened, and 16 old ones were closed. So, at the close of the year, 766 medical institutions were at work. They were made up as follows:— Medical institutions

| | |
|---|---|
| Government institutions (State-public) ... | 56 |
| Institutions for special departments of Government (such as Police) and special sections of the public (State-special) ... | 27 |
| Local Fund and Municipal ... ... ... | 544 |
| Private institutions aided by the State ... | 28 |
| Private institutions receiving no aid from the State ... ... ... ... ... | 64 |
| Railway dispensaries ... ... ... | 47 |
| Total ... | 766 |

Of these, 48 were for women and children.

Besides the above, several local bodies were subsidized by the Government under the scheme for extending medical relief to rural areas. Up to the end of the year, 58 rural dispensaries were sanctioned in taluk board areas and two were actually opened.

248. The total number of patients treated in State-public, local fund and private-aided institutions was 8,648,125. The table below shows the figures for the year under report compared with the figures for the previous year:— Relief

| | 1923. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|
| In-patients ... ... ... | 133,910 | 145,651 |
| Out-patients ... ... ... | 7,853,764 | 8,098,646 |
| Out-patients who did not appear at the dispensary but were represented by friends ... | 366,494 | 403,828 |
| Total ... | 8,354,168 | 8,648,125 |

Of the in-patients treated, 89,397 were cured, 27,005 relieved, 17,907 discharged otherwise and

7,035 died. The death-rate was 4·83 per cent. It was 4·49 in 1923.

The number of beds available was 4,442 for men and 3,472 for women.

The diseases among the in-patients were chiefly malaria, diseases of the digestive system, the skin and the respiratory system (except pneumonia) and tuberculosis of the lungs. Among the out-patients the diseases most prevalent were diseases of the digestive system, of the eye, inflammation ulcerative, all diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia, and tuberculosis of the lungs and injuries.

1,220,466 patients (both indoor and outdoor) were treated for infective diseases. The diseases in order of prevalence were malaria, dysentery, cholera, syphilis and gonococcal infection.

The total number of operations performed during the year was 390,427 on 381,071 patients. Of these operations, 33,878 were returned as really "major."

The number of treatments for hookworm administered was 123,095, an increase when compared with the figure for the previous year.

**Finance**

249. The total income of the State-public, local fund and municipal and private-aided institutions during the year (including opening balance) was Rs. 57,10,969 and the total expenditure Rs. 56,95,248. Of the income Government contributed Rs. 31,13,529 and local boards and municipalities Rs. 21,84,586.

**Medical College, Madras**

250. The ninetieth session of the Madras Medical College commenced on the 2nd July 1924 and terminated on the 31st March 1925. There were 593 students on the rolls of the College as against 616 in the previous year. The number of women students decreased from 59 to 57. The number of students who attended the University classes was 447 of whom 38 were women students. The percentage of passes at all examinations (M.B., B.S. and L.M.S.) was 41·3. There was a slight decrease in the percentage of failures in midwifery during the year 1924-25. Only one student joined the Chemist and Druggist class making a total of

2 students in the class during the year. During the year, 227 books were purchased for the library. The students as usual took interest in sports.

**Medical College, Vizagapatam**

251. The second academical year of the Vizagapatam Medical College commenced on 3rd July 1924 and ended on the 14th March 1925. The second-year class was opened during the year. There were 62 students on the rolls of the college in the first- and second-year classes. One woman candidate applied for admission to the college, but she could not be admitted for want of a separate common room and lavatory accommodation. The Senate of the Madras University has granted the affiliation of this college for the 1st M.B., B.S. or L.M.S. course. Affiliation of the 2nd M.B., B.S. course has been granted provisionally for one year pending the completion of certain improvements in staff and buildings and equipment. During the year, 367 books were purchased for the college library. Drill classes were held regularly by a pensioned Jamadar of the Indian Army.

**Medical schools**

**Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, Madras**

252. The second-year class of the Lady Willingdon Medical School was opened during the year. The number on the rolls in both the first and second-year classes was 42, of whom 27 were first-year students and 15 were second-year students. Of the 20 students admitted during the year 1923-24, 15 were promoted to the second-year class. The school and the hostel continued to be located in the Victoria Buildings, Egmore, and the Anatomy Block on the Marina. At present, the library contains only 21 volumes but more will be purchased in due course. A badminton court was opened for the students who have also been doing regular gymnastic exercises.

**Medical schools at Rāyapuram, Tanjore, Vizagapatam, Coimbatore and Madura**

There were 1,118 students on the rolls of the Medical schools at Rāyapuram, Tanjore, Vizagapatam, Coimbatore and Madura as against 1,262 (including the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women) in the previous year. The percentage of passes in the final qualifying examination of the various schools was as follows:—Rāyapuram 44·08, Tanjore 58·18, Vizagapatam 40·90 and Madura 39·1. The appointment of "Superintendent,

Rāyapuram Medical School and Rāyapuram Hospital" previously held by a single officer has been bifurcated. The Superintendents of Rāyapuram Hospital and Medical School are now appointed as lecturers either in medicine or surgery, as the case may be.

Libraries — During the year, 267 books were added to the libraries of the several medical schools. The proposal to improve the libraries of all medical schools of the Presidency is still under the consideration of a Standing Committee.

Accommodation — The fifth and sixth blocks of the hostel for Rāyapuram Medical School students were nearing completion at the close of the year and will soon be handed over for use. Blocks A, B and C of the hostel are provided with electric light and the provision of the same to the D block has been sanctioned by Government. It is expected that the above work will be taken up soon.

Expenditure — The total expenditure in all the medical schools amounted to Rs. 3,49,406 and the receipts to Rs. 63,731 against Rs. 3,82,447 and Rs. 66,714, respectively, in the previous year.

**The King Institute of Preventive Medicine (1924-25)**

General — 253. The King Institute of Preventive Medicine, which is situated at Guindy, is the premier laboratory for the Presidency of Madras, and the whole of Southern India relies upon it for bacteriological and serological diagnostic work, the manufacture and supply of vaccine lymph, prophylactic vaccine and sera and for expert advice in connexion with infectious and epidemic diseases.

Vaccine section — The quantity of vaccine lymph manufactured and the results are mentioned in the section on vaccination.

Bacteriological section — In the bacteriological section, 105,497 doses of bacterial vaccines were supplied during the year. This is an increase of 42,976 over the figure for the previous year. The increase in the total quantity issued is chiefly due to the larger demand for the prophylactic cholera and for mixed T.A.B. and influenza vaccines. In the institute itself, 12,089 specimens were examined during the year as compared with 7,516 in the

previous year. The investigation units examined 1,577 specimens.

In the public health section, 312 specimens were examined. This figure excludes specimens of water and also samples of milk and milk products examined by the Public Analyst.

Public health section

During the year, there were two investigation units permanently attached to the institute and the question of forming a third unit is now under the consideration of Government. These units were chiefly engaged in investigating relapsing fever, malaria, and kala-azar. It may be mentioned that the investigation of kala-azar practically established that the disease is endemic in certain villages of Tinnevelly and Rāmnād districts, but so far the centres of infection appear to be limited. Whether it is prevalent in other districts in this Presidency is not known. The disease seems to exist chiefly amongst Muhammadans.

Investigation units

There was an estimated net profit of Rs. 2,02,195 on the year's work.

Finance

**The Pasteur Institute, Coonoor (1924-25)**

254. The number of patients who were treated in the Pasteur Institute fell from 1,354 in 1923-24 to 189. The decrease was due to the whole area served by the institute having been brought under the operation of the new system under which anti-rabic vaccine was issued to numerous centres for use locally. Of the total number of patients, 218 came from Coimbatore district although treatment was available in Coimbatore. No patient died during treatment. One died within 15 days of completion of treatment and six more than 15 days from the date of its completion. Failures, which included the six cases of death more than 15 days after treatment, formed 1·22 per cent as against 0·14 per cent in the previous year. Advice, but no treatment, was given to 109 persons. At the close of the year, 15 patients remained under treatment. The virus was in its 935th passage on the 28th February 1925. The total number of patients treated at other local centres was 4,402, the largest since the institution of local treatment. In previous years, the facilities for treatment were gradually being transferred to

local centres. The transfer was completed in the year under report. Of the persons treated at local centres, 3 died during treatment, 4 less than 15 days, and 21 more than 15 days, after the completion of treatment. The percentage of failure at local centres was 0·47. Five per cent of the total number of patients treated at local centres for various reasons did not complete the full course of treatment. The receipts, excluding refunds of advances made to patients, amounted to Rs. 71,881 and the net expenditure to Rs. 49,309.

## Mental Hospitals (1924)

[*G.O. No. 1505, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated the 22nd July 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Lunatic Asylums*]

255. There were 1,295 insane persons in the three mental hospitals at Madras, Waltair and Calicut during the year 1924. The year's admissions, including re-admissions and observation cases, were 337 as against 330 in the previous year. Of the number admitted during the year into the Mental Hospital, Madras, two were voluntary boarders. The causes of insanity in the order of frequency were mental stress, heredity, toxic and infective diseases, mental instability, diseases due to disorders of nutrition or metabolism and diseases of the nervous system. The total number of criminals treated was 190 as against 204 in the previous year. Idiocy, imbecility, mania, melancholia, circular or alternating insanity, delusional insanity, insanity due to *Cannabis indica* and dementia were the principal diseases treated. Deaths increased from 89 to 107. The chief causes were tubercle of the lungs, dysentery, diseases of the nervous system, and cholera. Regular inspections of the hospitals were made both by officials and by non-officials. There was a fall in the total receipts during the year, from Rs. 3,81,415-0-11 to Rs. 3,55,079-12-6. The expenditure under diet in the Mental Hospital, Madras, showed a remarkable increase, the reason being the introduction of improved scales of dietary.

## SANITATION (1924)

*[The thirty-fifth annual report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the sixty-first annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for the year 1924]*

Municipalities

Water-supply and drainage works

256. The water-works for Anantapur which had been completed in 1923 were handed over in 1924 and so 30 municipalities were provided with protected water-supplies. The total number of municipalities in the Presidency is 81.

A number of schemes were under investigation, and improvements to water-works in certain towns were in progress during the year. A noticeable feature was the execution of as many as eight of the water-supply improvement schemes by the municipal councils themselves under the guidance of the Sanitary Engineer. At the end of the year there were 14 water-supply and drainage schemes sanctioned for execution, with about Rs. 46·83 lakhs to be spent; plans and estimates were available for 18 schemes estimated to cost about Rs. 119 lakhs, and plans and estimates were under preparation for two schemes costing about Rs. 45·50 lakhs.

Conservancy

Out of 81 municipalities only 11 employed municipal health officers.

The population for which conservancy arrangements were made amounted to 3,028,859. The number of public latrines of all descriptions was 1,897, a small increase over the number for last year. Of these, 1,228 were properly built latrines and the remainder were mere insanitary enclosures.

In many towns, the public latrine accommodation is still very inadequate. The total number of private latrines was 172,689. Of these, only 83·4 per cent were conserved by municipal agency. Only 38·7 per cent of the number of houses which were of a class which should possess private latrines were provided with them.

Expenditure

According to the information furnished by municipalities, the total allotment for sanitation amounted to Rs. 48,14,896 against Rs. 46,02,733 in the previous year. The provision for sanitation amounted to 4·75 per cent of the income, and

the expenditure for the nine months of the year for which figures are available was 61·8 per cent of the allotment. Of the total allotments, conservancy took Rs. 20,50,245 and improvements to water-supply Rs. 10,33,227.

**Rural areas**

257. No progress was made during the year in the introduction of protected water-supplies and drainage schemes in rural areas. Out of 548 unions in the Presidency only one has a protected water-supply. Conservancy arrangements existed only in 939 villages, of which 826 were unions. This amounts to only 2·3 per cent of the total number of villages in the Presidency (excluding three districts for which information has not been received).

Expenditure

The aggregate expenditure on sanitation in rural areas for the nine months of the year for which information is available was Rs. 7,57,905.

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## VACCINATION (1924-25)

[*Annual report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1924-25; Report on the working of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India, Vital Statistics — Vaccination*]

**General**

258. Except in the Nilgiris, where the District Board exercised control, the administration of vaccination in rural areas continued to be vested in taluk boards.

Glycerinated lymph was used throughout the Presidency during the year under report and sufficient lymph for 2,224,080 cases (as against 2,184,590 in 1923-24) was issued by the King Institute, Guindy.

An important innovation during the year was the use of rotary lancets in place of the old scarifying lancets which, though less expensive, are not so satisfactory in their results.

During the 3 to 4 hottest months, routine vaccination was suspended and the opportunity was taken to detect as many unregistered births and unprotected children as possible.

The necessity for intensive inquiries in this direction may be recognized from the fact that, in one district alone, Tanjore, nearly 19,000 unprotected children were detected during the year, which showed that registration work is not carried out with the thoroughness desirable. The chief factors which have retarded progress in vaccination work are the following :—

(1) Vaccination is compulsory only in certain tracts ;

(2) Many local bodies are reluctant to enforce the provisions of law relating to compulsory vaccination ;

(3) In some cases, local revenue officers failed to report promptly cases of smallpox and to maintain correctly the registers of vital statistics ;

(4) Some local bodies failed to employ an adequate and duly qualified staff of vaccinators ;

(5) The absence, especially in municipalities, of adequate supervision over the work of vaccinators ;

(6) The activities, though limited at present, of the anti-vaccinationists.

259. Nevertheless, the number of vaccination operations performed during the year was 2,033,997, which is probably the highest figure recorded in the history of the Presidency. There has been a continuous increase since 1922-23. The most prominent increases during the year under report were in the districts of Guntūr, Gōdāvari, Ganjām and Salem, each of which had an increase of over 10,000 in the number of operations. Operations

In 1923-24, the percentage of successful cases to the number of operations, the results of which were known, was 90 under primary * and secondary † vaccinations. The percentage in the year under report has risen to 94·6. Similarly, the percentage of successful revaccination ‡ cases has risen from 42·6 to 44·4. When the total operations

* *Primary vaccination* is the vaccination of a person never previously vaccinated and who has not suffered from smallpox.

† *Secondary vaccination* is the vaccination of a person who failed to "take" the first time

‡ *Revaccination* is the vaccination of a person already successfully vaccinated or who had a previous attack of smallpox.

are taken into account, the percentage has risen from 81·7 to 83·7. In 1920–21 the percentage was only 59·6.

In 1923–24 the average cost of each successful case was As. 8–9; in the year under report, the cost has fallen to As. 5–9 (due to the fact that only 33⅓ per cent of the expenditure on Health Inspectors was debited to vaccination as against the whole cost in previous years).

There was again a marked increase in the number of children under one year old who were successfully vaccinated in districts. The increase in the year under report was 79,557.

The total number of operations performed in the 81 municipalities of the Presidency was 239,430 in the year under report, an increase of 53,463 over the number in 1923–24. The figure is the highest on record and is partly due to the fixing of higher minima in certain towns and partly to the stimulus given by numerous and severe epidemics of smallpox.

During the year, the number of deaths due to smallpox was 20,227, a decrease of about 2,000 as compared with the previous year. More than half the total mortality occurred in the districts of South Arcot, Salem, Kistna, North Arcot, Guntūr, Anantapur and Gōdāvari.

# CHAPTER VII

## INSTRUCTION

### GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

260. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

### EDUCATION (1924-25)

[*Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1924-25; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education*]

261. The year was not marked by the introduction of any scheme of capital importance and thus the supervision, working and improvement of schemes already introduced formed the principal work of the department. The committee appointed to report on the work of the Law College, Madras, submitted their report. Government, in accepting the suggestions of the committee, sanctioned the institution of special lectures on important subjects of law by leading members of the profession. Sanction was also accorded to the employment, in the college, of 12 Assistant Lecturers in lieu of the staff of Professors and Assistant Professors hitherto employed. The survey of elementary education, commenced last year, was proceeded with and its scope extended. The survey of the Saidapet taluk was completed in May 1924 and the survey of all the taluks in the Presidency on the lines of the model survey was conducted by the inspecting officers of the department in co-operation with the revenue officers. The population centres and schools in each taluk were marked in the taluk outline maps, and registers have been prepared giving the detailed information required

General

for framing schemes of educational expansion. The scrutiny of the survey records was taken up in February 1925, and reports on the results of the survey are being compiled. At a conference held to consider questions connected with the education of European and Anglo-Indian children in this Presidency, it was decided to undertake the survey of the position of European and Anglo-Indian education with a view to ascertain the needs of the community in each area and in particular the kind and standard of education required. A preliminary examination was carried out by the Inspector of European Schools before the end of the year.

**Statistics**

262. The number of public institutions rose by 2,768 to 44,309 and their strength by 129,048 to 2,105,695, the increase being 6·6 per cent and 6·5 per cent, respectively, against 7 per cent and 7·2 per cent in the previous year. There was a slight decrease in the number of private institutions. Taking public and private institutions together, the number of institutions rose by 2,614 and their strength by 122,596. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 5·2 against 4·9 in the previous year, the increase occurring mainly in the case of boys, the percentage in their case being 8·3 this year as against 7·9 in the previous year.

**University and collegiate education**

263. The first meeting of the Senate under the new Act was held on 4th April 1924, that of the Academic Council on 18th August 1924 and that of the Council of Affiliated Colleges on 9th August 1924. During the year, 266 pages of the Tamil Lexicon containing 7,511 words in all relating to the first two letters of the Tamil alphabet were published. The organization of the University Training Corps continued as in the previous year. A band was formed for the first time in August 1924, this unit being supplied by the National Theosophical College, Adyar. All eight companies were at full strength throughout the year and the results of the annual musketry training of the year showed a considerable improvement as compared with those of the preceding year.

The number of first-grade colleges for men rose from 17 to 19, in consequence of the affiliation in the B.A. course of the National College, Trichinopoly, and the Hindu College, Tinnevelly; the number of second-grade colleges fell from 22 to 21, owing to the opening of college classes in the National High School, Adyar, and the raising to the first grade of the National College, Trichinopoly, and the Hindu College, Tinnevelly. The total number of students in arts colleges for men was 9,813 as against 8,928 in the previous year. Of these, 452 were undergoing Honours courses and 23 post-graduate courses. The strength of the second-grade colleges fell from 2,269 to 2,237.

New affiliations

The following affiliations were granted during the year:—The further affiliation of the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, in Branch iii-A (History, Economics and Politics) of the B.A. Honours degree courses: of the Sri Meenakshi College, Chidambaram, in Group i (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) of the Intermediate course, Group i (Mathematics), and Group iv (Psychology, Ethics, etc.) of the B.A. degree courses; of the National College, Trichinopoly, in Group iv (Psychology, Ethics, etc.), and Group v (History and Economics) of the B.A. degree courses; of the Theosophical College, Madanapalle, in Group i of the Intermediate courses; of the Government College, Coimbatore, in Group ii of the Intermediate courses; of the Government Medical College, Vizagapatam, in the first M.B., B.S. or L.M.S. course only. The recognition of the National High School, Adyar, as a second-grade college to provide instruction in Groups i and iii of the Intermediate courses, and the further recognition of Queen Mary's College for Women, Madras, in Groups i and ii of the Intermediate courses were also granted during the year.

Secondary education

261. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 494 to 506, and their strength from 155,140 to 156,384. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,338. As in the previous year, there was an increase of over a thousand in the number of candidates who sat for the S.S.L.C. public examination. Seventy-three

pupils belonging to the depressed classes were admitted to the S.S.L.C. examination without payment of fees and seventeen of these were declared eligible to enter upon a University course of studies. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose from Rs. 63·80 lakhs to Rs. 65·61 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 27 per cent, fees 58 per cent and other sources 15 per cent. The average cost of educating a pupil was Rs. 41·37 and each pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 24·04.

**Elementary education**

265. The number of public elementary schools for Indian boys increased by 2,632 to 40,340 and their strength by 116,716 to 1,695,863. The percentage of male pupils to the male population rose from 6·6 to 7·1. The total number of teachers employed in these schools increased by 4,946 to 72,074 and the number of trained teachers by 3,775 to 34,168. The percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers employed also rose from 45 to 47. The number of school buildings constructed during the year for the accommodation of elementary schools was 569, of which 82 were for schools under public management. The total expenditure on these schools rose from Rs. 104·06 lakhs to Rs. 116·87 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 75 per cent, fees 7 per cent and other sources 18 per cent. The average cost per pupil was Rs. 7–0–6 against Rs. 6–11 8 in the year previous.

**Special**

266. The number of Government training schools for masters fell from 64 to 63, owing to the amalgamation of the Government Training School at Tiruvâlûr with the Government Higher Elementary Training School at Tanjore, but their strength rose from 6,148 to 6,167. The number of aided training schools increased by one, bringing the total up to 20, and their strength was 1,719. On 31st March 1925, there were 17,793 students receiving instruction of a technical character as compared with 13,765 in 1923-24. Of the former, 887 were pursuing education in art, 1,175 technical education in engineering subjects and telegraphy, 13,138 industrial education including agriculture and 2,593 commercial education.

267. The number of schools solely intended for Indian girls rose by 170 to 3,220 and their strength by 11,346 to 220,073. The number of arts colleges rose from 4 to 5 owing to the opening of college classes in the Roman Catholic Fort Girls' High School, Trichinopoly, and their strength rose from 390 to 407. There was also an increase in the number of women students reading in arts colleges for men, from 57 to 69. The number of secondary schools for girls rose from 61 to 63, but their strength fell from 12,454 to 12,290. Including girls reading in boys' schools, 14,129 girls were receiving secondary education during the year. The number of elementary schools for girls rose by 116 to 2,977 and their strength by 9,895 to 200,733. The number of training schools, Government and aided, for women rose from 31 to 32, owing to the opening of a secondary training class in St. Christopher's Training College for Women, Madras. **Women's education**

268. The total number of European institutions fell from 91 to 89, but the number of pupils reading in them increased from 10,203 to 10,304. Of the 722 teachers employed in these schools, 593 were certificated. For the European High School examination 167 candidates were examined and 103 passed. In the Middle School examination 281 were examined and 134 passed. The total expenditure on European education decreased slightly from Rs. 25·59 lakhs to Rs. 25·53 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 38 per cent, fees 22 per cent and other sources 40 per cent. **European education**

269. The total number of public institutions intended for Muhammadans increased by 223 to 2,616. There was, however, a decrease in the number of private schools from 857 to 730. In arts colleges, there were 248 students, including 2 women students; the number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose by 162 to 8,850. In the ten training and sessional schools for men and the three training schools for women, 408 men and 71 women students, respectively, were under training. The number of public institutions intended for Mappillas increased by 204 to 865. The expenditure on Muhammadan and **Education of Muhammadans**

Mappilla schools rose from Rs. 14·60 lakhs to Rs. 17·25 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 77 per cent, fees 3 per cent and other sources 20 per cent.

**Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes**

270. The number of public institutions for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras rose by 511 to 9,086 and their strength by 14,991 to 253,787. The total number of Ādi-Drāvida and Ādi-Āndhra scholars in public schools rose from 179,548 to 193,633. The number of elementary schools intended for aboriginal and hill tribes in the Agency tracts rose by 4 to 260 and their strength by 135 to 7,961. The total number of pupils belonging to aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Agency division was 8,169 (7,943 boys and 226 girls). In the Presidency as a whole, the total number of pupils of these classes under instruction was 16,439 (14,812 boys and 1,627 girls). There were 15 schools exclusively working for the benefit of these tribes (Chenchus) in the Kurnool district and 59 schools in the Nilgiris. All the schools intended for the education of the blind, of deaf mutes and of other defective children referred to in the last year's report continued to work during the year.

**Finance**

271. The total expenditure on education rose during the year from Rs. 370 01 lakhs to Rs. 390 39 lakhs. The proportion which public funds and private funds bore to the total expenditure remained the same as last year, viz., 56 and 44 per cent. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs. 275·37 lakhs to Rs. 293·97 lakhs, towards which public funds alone contributed more than Rs. 13 lakhs. The amounts spent by local bodies on their own schools showed an increase of over Rs. 9 lakhs. There was also a small increase in the total indirect expenditure, from Rs. 94·64 lakhs to Rs. 96·42 lakhs. Provincial subsidies to local bodies including the amounts placed at the disposal of District Educational Councils towards elementary education rose by Rs. 6 lakhs to Rs. 87·61 lakhs.

## REFORMATORY AND CERTIFIED * SCHOOLS

The Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput (1924)

272. The year began with 226 pupils on the rolls of the Reformatory School, Chingleput. Fifty-four were newly admitted (of whom 42 were first offenders, six had one previous conviction and six had two previous convictions), one returned from court after re-inquiry, and one who ran away was re-captured and brought back to the school. Fifty were discharged, two were licensed, one transferred to the Junior Certified School, Rānipēttai, and one died, leaving a total of 228 at the end of the year. Of the 50 discharges, 29 were ordinary discharges and 4 special; 17 were for over-age.

Numbers

Health

All possible steps were taken to keep the school and its surroundings in a clean and sanitary condition. Apart from the periodical prevalence of malaria, the general health of the boys continued to be satisfactory. The total number of boys sick who were treated as out-patients during the year was 1,276. Of these, 539 were treated for malaria, and the rest for minor ailments, mostly hurts received at games and at work. There were 45 in-patients and amongst these there were 18 cases of malarial fever, including two cases of cerebral malaria, one of which proved fatal. Although there was an attack of influenza in the town, the school was, thanks to the prompt preventive measures taken by the Sub-assistant Surgeon, kept free from the epidemic.

Education and discipline

The religious and moral instruction of the boys received special attention as usual. The monitorial system continued to work satisfactorily. There were 68 punishments during the year as against 127 in the previous year. Battalion and Nochren drill and gymnastics were taught to the pupils, and the District Educational Officer was of opinion that the training given continued to maintain a high standard of efficiency. The reports of the District Educational Officer who inspected the

* A "certified school" is a school maintained or certified under the Madras Children Act (IV of 1920). A school for youthful offenders (i.e., under 16 years old) is called a senior certified school, and one for children (i.e., under 14 years old) is called a junior certified school.

general education classes and of other Inspectors who examined the several industrial classes, on the whole disclosed a satisfactory state of affairs. Out of a total of 35 boys sent up for examinations in various subjects, 22 passed fully, and 1 partially. A number of books were added to the library, and seven new specimens to the museum. The boys took keen interest in games. Football, hockey and badminton were played. The Rogers Cup for hockey, and the Stone Athletic Shield for football were won by the band class.

The reports received in respect of 64 ex-pupils show that 45, or about 70 per cent, bore a good character.

Finance

The total cash earnings of the boys amounted to Rs. 1,157 as against Rs. 1,035 in the previous year, and the total cash receipts amounted to Rs. 7,950 as against Rs. 6,300 in the previous year. The total expenditure was Rs. 58,670 against Rs. 57,447 in the previous year. There were eleven meetings of the Committee of Visitors of the school during the year. The Committee was reconstituted in December 1924.

**The Junior Certified School, Rānipēttai (1924-25)**

273. The other school of the above class is the Junior Certified School, Rānipēttai. The year began with 29 pupils on the rolls. Fifteen were newly admitted, bringing up the total to 44. Of the 44 pupils, one escaped, and another, who was suffering from tuberculosis, was discharged and sent to Madanapalle Sanitarium, where he died shortly after admission. Thus the total number of pupils on the rolls at the end of the year was 42.

Numbers

Health and sanitation

The sanitation of the school was fairly satisfactory. The health of the boys was good throughout the year. Seven boys were admitted into the local hospital as in-patients, the period of detention not exceeding five days in each case. Minor complaints and ailments were, as usual, treated in the school itself.

Education

For general education purposes, the boys were divided into three classes according to their attainments. The methods of teaching employed were good. The main industrial occupation taught in the school was carpentry, with allied subjects

such as mechanical and free-hand drawing and paper and card-board modelling. The Superintendent has observed in his administration report of the school for the year that the Adviser to Government on Manual and Vocational Training was satisfied with the work of the classes. The boys were taught Nochren's physical exercises as well as military drill. Cricket, football and other organized games were played by them as usual. They also competed in the inter-school sports held during the "Baby Week" celebrations and won many prizes.

Finance

The expenditure of the school amounted to Rs. 11,789-13-4, the receipts being Rs. 69-11-0. There were eight meetings of the Committee of Visitors during the year.

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## MISCELLANEOUS (1924-25)

Government examinations

General

274. The total number of candidates registered for thirteen examinations, which were held at 635 centres, was 40,109 against 46,553 in the previous year, and the total number examined was 35,775: particulars relating to each examination are given in the annexed statement. The decrease in the number of candidates registered and examined was due mainly to the fall in the number of candidates that appeared for the Government Technical Examinations; this fall was again due to the fact that the revised scheme of these examinations was introduced for the first time during the year. Under this scheme, the number of grades has been reduced from three to two; higher educational qualifications are required of candidates appearing in some of the subjects like shorthand; and the standard prescribed for the lower grade is higher than that for the old elementary grade. All the examinations were held at several centres in the Presidency and seven of them were held at centres outside it.

| Number. | Name of examination. | Number of candidates registered. | Number of candidates examined. | Number of centres. | Number passed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination ... ... | 16,697 | 14,149 | 314 | *14,097 |
| 2 | Special Examination under the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board for the benefit of teachers who have failed in the Matriculation or the Upper Secondary Examination and are desirous of being admitted for Secondary Grade Training | 7 | 7 | 7 | ... |
| 3 | Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination ... .. .. | 43 | 42 | 22 | |
| 4 | Training School Leaving Certificate Examination ... .. .. | 7,887 | 7,557 | 98 | ... |
| 5 | Deputy Inspectors' Test Examination ... .. ... | † 136 | † 108 | 16 | 71 |
| 6 | Government Technical Examinations ... ... .. | † 12,250 | † 11,273 | 65 | † 4,737 |
| 7 | Public Examination at the end of the Advanced Course of Studies in Sanskrit Schools ... ... | 132 | 125 | 15 | ... |
| 8 | Special Test Examinations, June. | † 902 | † 676 | 26 | 290 |
| | Do. December. | † 1,028 | † 859 | 27 | 430 |
| 9 | Technical Teachers' Certificate Examination .. .. ... | 125 | 109 | 13 | 80 |
| 10 | European School Examinations .. | 608 | 598 | 22 | 321 |
| 11 | Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for men) .. ... ... ... | 243 | 226 | 6 | 133 |
| 12 | Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for women) ... ... ... | 41 | 40 | 2 | 21 |
| 13 | Examination for the award of Certificates of Competency to persons qualified to teach in schools for physically defective (blind and deaf-mute) children .. | 10 | 6 | 2 | 6 |
| | Total ... | 40,109 | 35,775 | 635 | ... |

* This is the number of candidates who completed their certificates.
† Number of subject candidates.

The following are some points of interest in connexion with certain of these examinations:

Of the 42 candidates who appeared for the Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination, 35 were Indian Christians.

At the Training School Leaving Certificate Examination, Brahmans obtained the largest number of passes in the Secondary Grade, Indian

Christians in the Higher Elementary Grade and Non-Brahman caste Hindus in the Lower Elementary Grade.

Out of the 34 successful women candidates for the Higher Grade Technical Examinations, 10 came up in Needlework, and Dressmaking. There were 239 successful women candidates in the lower grade; 12 appeared for the examination in Theory and Practice of Commerce and 5 of them were successful. Eighteen candidates were examined for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training for Women held in December. Of these, 11 (7 Europeans and 4 Indian Christians) were successful. For the examination held in March there were 22 candidates from three schools, of whom 20 were from the Lady Willingdon Training College, Triplicane. Of these, 10 candidates (4 Europeans and 6 Indian Christians) were successful, 9 of them being from the Lady Willingdon Training College. All the 6 successful candidates in the examination for the award of certificates of competency to persons qualified to teach in schools for physically defective children were Indian Christians and 4 of them were women.

Finance

The receipts amounted to Rs. 2,79,940 against Rs. 2,42,009 last year, and the expenditure, including refunds and the compensation paid to the University of Madras, was Rs. 2,16,536 against Rs. 2,20,291. Though there was a decrease of over 6,444 in the total number of candidates registered for the various examinations, there was an increase of Rs. 37,931 in the receipts. The expenditure was less than that of the previous year by Rs. 3,755; and the excess of receipts over expenditure was Rs. 63,404 against Rs. 21,718 in the previous year.

**Lawrence Memorial School, Ootacamund**

Pupils

275. On the 31st March 1925, there were on the rolls 311 boys and 174 girls. There were 258 children on the waiting list. Out of 5 boys and 4 girls who appeared for the European High School Examination, 4 boys and 3 girls passed, and out of 7 boys and 6 girls who appeared for the Middle School Examination, 6 boys and 5 girls passed. One boy and one girl were presented for the Cambridge School Certificate Examination and both of them

passed, and 6 boys and 4 girls were examined for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination, of whom 5 boys and 3 girls passed. The pupils who left the school during the year after the completion of their school course have all secured suitable appointments.

Physical exercises

The school detachment was constituted as a Cadet Company attached to the Nilgiri-Malabar Rifles in January 1924 and a full issue of rifles and equipment has now been granted to the school by the Government of India, Army Department, on condition that the school keeps it up. Drill, gymnastics, boxing and shooting are taught regularly to the boys; the girls play hockey, badminton and tennis and have companies of girl guides. The school continued to maintain its efficiency.

Training School for Mistresses

In the Training School for European Mistresses, which was started in 1923 in conjunction with the Girls' Branch of this school as an experimental measure for a period of two years, the first batch of students completed their course in December 1924. The continuance of the Training School for a further period of two years has been sanctioned, admission being restricted to middle-grade candidates only.

Finance

Including the opening balance, the total receipts during the financial year 1924-25 amounted to Rs. 3·59 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 3·41 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 0·18 lakh.

## LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1924-25)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Press and Publications*]

General

276. This section contains a brief discussion of the statistics furnished by certain libraries and the Madras Record Office, a discussion of the development and tendencies of the Public Press and a note on the number of books registered during the year.

The libraries dealt with are the Connemara Public Library, the University Library and the Oriental Manuscripts Library.

INSTRUCTION

277. The number of visitors to the Connemara Public Library was 30,696 as against 28,988 in the previous year. The number of visitors to this library seems to increase from year to year. But though the number of visitors has been greater, the number of volumes consulted has declined from 39,881 to 33,217, which number includes 1,999 volumes issued for museum work or on loan to Government offices. During the year, 318 standard works were added to the library. The library formerly obtained books published out of India through Messrs. F. T. Baker & Co., Ltd., London. Their contract expired at the end of 1924. The Government have now arranged with Messrs. P. R. Rama Ayyar & Co., Madras, to supply such books to the library. Connemara Public Library

278. The number of readers in the University Library, the number of volumes consulted, the number of persons who took books on loan and the number of books so taken were each greater than in the previous year. The following table gives the figures :— University Library

| | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|---|---|---|
| Number of readers ... ... | 15,083 | 16,694 |
| Number of volumes consulted ... | 21,305 | 23,694 |
| Number of persons who took Books on loan... ... ... | 261 | 324 |
| Number of books taken on loan... | 6,240 | 8,282 |

279. The number of manuscripts acquired for the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 1,319. Of these, 115 were acquired by transcription, 36 by restoration, 21 by purchase and 1,147 by presentation. The largest collection presented came from the library of the late Sri Yogi Parthasarathi Ayyangar of Triplicane. This collection is considered to be one of the oldest in Southern India and is mentioned as the Sarasvati Bhandaram Committee Manuscripts in Doctor Oppert's list of Sanskrit manuscripts published in 1880. During the year, two members of the staff were sent out on tour. They returned with 193 manuscripts. Most of these were on loan for transcription; only five had been presented and one other was bought by the library. The printing of the work *Brahmasiddi* was completed during Oriental Manuscripts Library

the year. An advisory committee for the library was appointed during the year. It prepared a set of draft rules for the working of the library. These rules were approved by Government in February 1925. The number of visitors to the library was 3,943 as against 3,947 last year ; but the number of persons who came to copy and compare manuscripts has increased and the number of manuscripts consulted has risen. The increase appears to be steady over a number of years. The library seems to be growing in popularity, and references have been made to it from all parts of India. Visitors chiefly consult works of poetry and prose. Works on religion, medicine, philosophy, art and science have also been frequently consulted during the three years ending with 1924–25.

**The Madras Record Office (1924-25)**

280. Besides the annual accession of records by transfer from the Secretariat and other offices, there were no new acquisitions to the Madras Record Office. The total number of requisitions and searches for papers as well as for information, received from the Secretariats, the Board of Revenue and other offices was about 7,100. Originals of Orders of Government in the Revenue Department for the years 1861 to 1863, and also fourteen old volumes were mended.

Publication.

Matter relating to Despatches from England from 1706–07 to 1721–22 has been collated, compared and edited. Matter relating to Despatches to England from 1711–12 to 1735–36 has also been edited, but the receipt of transcripts from the India Office for missing portions is awaited. As regards the Bāramahal records, the volume relating to Section XVII—Justice—was under print at the close of the year. Matter for Volume XI of the translation of Ānanda Ranga Pillai's Diary was being edited at the end of the year.

**Periodicals (1924)**

281. During the year 1924, there were 116 newspapers published in Madras City and 171 in the mufassal, making a total of 287 for the Presidency. Eight newspapers were published in the French Settlements of Pondicherry and Karaikal. More newspapers were published in Tamil than in any other language.

Circulation

The circulation of most of the important dailies published in English remained the same as in 1923. Of these, the *Hindu* has a larger daily circulation (11,000) than any other newspaper, whether printed in English or in a vernacular. Its entire circulation (including tri-weekly and weekly editions) in 1924 was more than double what it was in 1917. It is a severe critic of the Government and a vehement supporter of Indian interests where racial questions are involved but, apart from any question of politics, it has an excellent news service and alway sreports a *cause célèbre*, regardless of the space involved. The *Madras Mail*, a paper largely read by Europeans, had a daily circulation of 7,000, next largest to that of the *Hindu*. Since 1917, when it was at the height of its anti-Government crusade, with a circulation of 10,000, there has been a steady decrease in the circulation of *New India*. It fell from 3,000 in 1923 to 2,000 in 1924. The circulation of the *Daily Post* fell from 1,600 in 1923 to 750 in 1924.

The circulation of the majority of the Tamil newspapers remained as it was in 1923. The *Swadesamitran* continued to be the leading Tamil daily, with a circulation of 7,000. The *Ananda Bodhini*, a Tamil monthly, dealing with general news had a circulation of 20,000.

Among the Telugu newspapers, the *Andhra Patrika* continued to have the largest circulation, 7,000, including daily and weekly editions. Two of the new Telugu papers, *Gandhi Gita* and *Satyagrahi*, published weekly and both of advanced political views, each had a circulation of 2,000.

Tone of the Press

There has been little change in the tone of the Press during the year. In the following matters, amongst others, the actions of the Governments and officials concerned met with much hostile criticism both from papers published in English and from those in a vernacular :—The Reforms Inquiry Committee, the Public Services Commission and its recommendations, the situation in Bengal and the Bengal Ordinance No. I of 1924, the re-settlement in Tanjore district, the O'Dwyer-Nayar case, the *Bombay Chronicle* case, Jaito Jatha,

Vaikom Satyagraha campaign, the action of the British Government with reference to the murder of Sir Lee Stack in Egypt, the floods of 1924, the position of Indians in the Colonies.

Publications declared forfeit

The number of publications declared forfeit under the Code of Criminal Procedure fell from 182 during 1923 to 74 during 1924. This fall is no doubt due to the fact that communist literature is stopped to an increasing extent by the use of the Sea Customs Act. The editor and publisher of the Telugu weekly newspaper *Congress*, published at Rajahmundry, East Gōdāvari district, was prosecuted for sedition. He was convicted and imprisoned.

Registration of books (1924-25)

282. The total number of publications registered during the year was 5,011 as against 4,404 in 1923–24. Of those registered, 4,088 were classed as books and 923 as periodicals, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 3,587 and 817, respectively. Thus the year was marked by a general increased activity in the field of journalistic and other literature. The increase was mostly under "Original works" and in the vernaculars. In as many as ten districts there was a slight fall which was, however, more than counterbalanced by increase elsewhere and particularly in Madras. Of the total number of publications registered, 1,100 were English publications and the rest were in other languages. Tamil, as usual, maintained the leading position and contributed largely to the total increase. The majority of books published (33 per cent) were of a religious or philosophical nature. There was a welcome increase in the books dealing with mathematics and natural science. Eight hundred and seventy publications or 21 per cent of the total number were designed for educational purposes. The tone of the publications presented for registration, whether of cultural value or for information alone, was on the whole healthy and progressive.

## LITERARY SOCIETIES

283. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

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## ARTS AND SCIENCES (1924-25)

**Government Museum Acquisition**

284. During the year, the principal acquisitions to the Government Museum have been additional copper-plate grants, coins, bronzes, lamps and pictures in the Archæological section, and specimens from the Gulf of Mannar and the neighbourhood of the Madras City in the Zoological and Botanical sections. The Museum is indebted to the Zoological Survey for a collection of named insects and to the Governments of the United Provinces, Central Provinces, the Curator, Central Museum, Lahore, and to the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for 59 coins presented to it in the course of the year. The Director-General of Archæology sent 29 coins to be kept in the Museum collection. No work has been possible in the Ethnological or Geological sections.

**Preservation**

Progress has been made in all the sections with the better preservation of the collections and in making them more accessible. The collection of South Indian bronzes showed signs of decay. A special Archæological Chemist was appointed and he has succeeded in arresting it.

**Archæological investigation**

Studies of some of the coins received in the previous years have brought to light a new dynasty of Eruvas, a new king and a new Mughal mint. It has been found that Chola kings had mints at Kanchi and Nellore. These coins have also helped to elucidate the history of Todar Mull, who was the Commander-in-Chief of Sadat-ul-lah Khan, Nawab of Arcot, who, it will be remembered, played an important part in the history of the Honourable the East India Company in the early years of the eighteenth century.

**Botanical**

The main work of the Botanical section has been the study of the local flora. The plates for an introduction to this have now been completed, but

the work on the text has not progressed as rapidly as had been hoped.

Loss of coins

An unfortunate loss of 12 gold coins occurred during the year. These coins had been sent to London for the preparation of plates to illustrate an article in the Indian Antiquary. It appears that on their return the parcel was opened in transit and the 12 gold coins stolen.

Visitors

The number of visitors during the year was 764,781. The Dwadasi and Kannupongal festivals attracted large crowds of visitors as usual.

Museum Theatre

The Museum Theatre was in great demand and was used on 38 occasions by the Madras Dramatic Society, the Madras Musical Association and for University lectures.

**Meteorology (1924-25)**

285. The Madras Daily Weather Report was published for nine months of the year, from April to December. Excluding meteorological observatories, there were 400 rain-registering stations in the Presidency at the beginning of the year. One station was abolished during the year. The total number of stations at the end of the year was thus 399, of which about 97 per cent were inspected. There were 103 rain-gauge stations in the Province of Coorg and in the States of Travancore, Cochin and Pudukkōttai, of which 86 per cent were inspected during the year. The rain gauges were generally in good condition and the registration of rainfall was satisfactory.

**Astronomy (1924)**

Kodaikānal Observatory

286. The Kodaikānal Observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work, but complete meteorological and seismometric records are also maintained. During the year 1924, the record of solar activity was maintained as in former years. Spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 329 days, in hydrogen light on 294 days and of prominences on the limb on 290 days. Direct solar photographs on a scale of 8 inches to the diameter were obtained on 328 days.

There has been a steady increase in activity as regards sunspots since the previous year. The approximate mean latitude of the spots was 23°·7 in the northern hemisphere and 24°·9 in the southern.

One spot group, evidently belonging to the old cycle, appeared on the visible disc at about latitude 5° north on 9th July 1924, persisted during nearly 3½ revolutions of the sun and crossed its central meridian on four occasions.

Compared with the year 1923, prominence activity showed an increase of 19 per cent in areas, the increase being more marked in the northern hemisphere. The distribution of prominences in latitude was much the same as in the previous year, with maxima at 50° in both the hemispheres, but a definite increase of activity has been shown in the lower latitudes.

Detailed study of the hydrogen line in the spectrum of the sun, which was continued throughout the year, led to the discovery of three new features. The phenomena in the lower levels of the sun's atmosphere which these features reveal are believed to be a necessary accompaniment of spot disturbances. A series of comparisons of the solar spectrum with arc spectra has been obtained during the year, and the measurement of these photographs for displacement of solar lines has been in progress during the year.

The research on the tripling of arc lines mentioned in last year's report has been completed. The thallium line at wave length 5,350 units proved to be the most suitable line for furnishing the clue to the tripling phenomenon. It is shown by this research that there is no ground for believing that the tripling is due to electrical resolution due to atomic fields, and that the phenomenon cannot be utilized to estimate atomic fields in the sun.

Under the auspices of the International Astronomical Union, the Kodaikānal Observatory has begun, with effect from 1st January 1923, to collect spectroheliograms from other observatories for those days on which records could not be made at Kodaikānal, and the supplemental data thus obtained have been taken into consideration in the work of compilation and discussion of statistics derived from photographs of prominences and hydrogen absorption markings.

The Milne horizontal pendulum seismograph recorded 87 earthquakes during the year.

Madras Observatory

The only astronomical observations made at the Madras Observatory are those for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on 35 occasions out of 727, giving a percentage of success of 95·2. Most of the failures were due to faults in the firing apparatus and to contacts on the line outside the observatory. For three days the gun was not fired as the cannon was under repair. The time ball at the harbour was dropped correctly on every day except between the 17th and 29th January when it was removed for repairs. The 7 p.m. radio-signals from Calcutta failed on twelve occasions up to May 1st when the time was changed to 10 p.m. Since May 1st the signals failed on 22 occasions out of 245, giving a percentage of success of 91. The sixteen-hour roll of signals was sent to the Telegraph office every day as usual.

# CHAPTER VIII

## ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1924-25)

**Archæology**

287. A sum of Rs. 17,872-13-6 was spent in the Madras Presidency on the conservation of ancient monuments and the upkeep of roads and pathways connected with them. This expenditure comprised over one hundred different items, including the usual annual repairs, and maintenance of watchmen. No exploration work was undertaken owing to want of funds. The heaviest expenditure was incurred at Hampi Ruins, Seven Pagodas, Gingee, Chola temple at Motupalli, Vellore Fort, Masulipatam, Gooty and Anjengo. All these important monuments are now in good repair and have been provided with good roads and pathways for the benefit of visitors. A sum of Rs. 290 was realized by the sale of photographs to the public. Materials for Part II of a Memoir on Pallava Architecture, which is to be published shortly, were collected. The second edition of an Illustrated Guide to Hampi Ruins was prepared and sent to the Press and it is now available for the public. The expenditure on establishment amounted to Rs. 21,534-8-0.

**Epigraphy**

288. During the year 1924-25, 279 villages were visited, 420 inscriptions copied in them and 79 photographs secured. Nineteen copper-plate records were examined in the office during the year. Māyavaram taluk in the Tanjore district and Kudligi taluk in the Bellary district were taken up for detailed villagewar survey. Kudligi has been completely examined, but, owing to the large number of inscriptions, the work in the other taluk could not be finished within the year.

Of the nineteen copper-plate grants, the most ancient are the three sets of the Śālaṅkāyana dynasty of about the fourth century A.D., one

issued by Mahārāja Śrī Vijaya-Skandavarman and the other two by Mahārāja Śrī-Nandivarman, from their capital city Vijaya-Vēṅgī. Three Eastern Gaṅga plates dated in Śaka 982, 1003 and 1034, respectively, are specially helpful in tracing the genealogy of this line of kings which has not yet been done satisfactorily. The remaining copper-plate records relate to the Eastern Chāḷukyas, Vijayanagara, Mysore and Pudukkōttai chiefs.

We learn for the first time, from the stone records, the names of two queens of Uttama-Chōḷa, viz., Ōraṭṭaṇaṉ Śōrappaiyār and Ārūraṉ Ponnambalattaḍigaḷār. An inscription from Tiruvāḍuturai (Tanjore district) mentions Trailōkyamādēviyār, the mother of Rājēndra-Chōḷadēva I. and her mother Irāmaṉ Abhimānatoṅgiyār. The identity of Vijaya-Rājēndra with Rājādhirāja I, hitherto merely surmised, has been confirmed by an inscription which definitely states that Rājādhirāja I was crowned king under the name Vijaya-Rājēndra. From another inscription, Kulōttuṅga III, the conqueror of Īlam, Madura and Karuvūr is found to have had another surname, Śoḷakēraḷadēva. The great interest taken in theatres, dances and other similar amusements in early times is reflected in certain records of Rājarāja I and Kulōttuṅga I in which endowments were made for enacting the "*Āryakkūttu*" and the maintenance of a stage called "*Nāṉā-vida-naṭasālai*." Some verse-epigraphs in praise of the chief Śaḷaiyaṉ, *alias* Śeḍipaṉ of Puḍuvai, the patron of Tamil Literature and "the ornament of the Ganga line," whose *protégé* was Kambaṉ, the famous author of the Tamil version of the *Rāmāyaṇa* are of literary importance. Another family of chiefs is represented this year in Ponparappiṉān Magadaipperumāl as claiming descent from the Banas and ruling somewhere in the North Arcot district as feudatory under the Cholas. Inscriptions copied in the Kudligi taluk of the Bellary district disclose the names of one or two Western Chāḷukya governors, tracing their descent from the early Kadambas. Similarly, we find an Eastern Chāḷukya prince, by name Vishnuvardhana Vijayāditya, serving as a viceroy under them over the Nolambavāḍi 32,000

country. The big column of stone, 8 storeys in height, known as the "Manora Tower" at Sāluvanāyakanpattanam (Tanjore district) erected by Sarfōji-Mahārāja of Tanjore "the friend and ally of the British Government, to commemorate the triumphs of the British arms and the downfall of Bonaparte in 1814" deserves special mention. Inscriptions in English, Persian, Mahratti, Tamil and Telugu engraved on a marble tablet built into the base of this column proclaim the object of its construction.

Interesting information is given in the inscriptions deciphered during the year regarding the encouragement given to the study of the Vēdas and the Vēdānta, provision for a free dispensary and the self-immolation of some temple devotees to establish the right of the temple over certain lands; and the collection as a whole throws fresh light on the political, social and religious condition of the ancient people.

# CHAPTER IX

## MISCELLANEOUS

### ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

289. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

### ECCLESIASTICAL (1924-25)

**Church of England** General

290. On the 31st March 1925 there were in all 280 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras.

The Bishop was on furlough for five months and six days during the year. In his absence, the diocese was administered by his Commissary, the Acting Archdeacon of Madras.

Ordinations

During the year, one Indian was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura ordained 7 deacons and 6 priests, all of them Indians, and the Bishop of Dornakal ordained, under the commission from the Bishop of Madras, one European and one Indian deacon and 8 Indian priests. Eighteen clergymen received licences to officiate during the year as Chaplains, English ministers, missionaries or as Indian pastors. Of these licences, 8 were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura and 4 by the Bishop of Dornakal.

Alms

Alms and other devotions of the people offered through clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rs. 1,88,288.

**Church of Scotland**

291. During the year, the establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain who was on leave, the officiating Presidency Senior Chaplain in charge at Madras, one Junior Chaplain in Bangalore and one Junior Chaplain in Secunderabad whose services had been placed at the disposal of the Army Department,

## STATIONERY (1924-25)

292. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year 1924-25 was Rs. 8,21,869 (English stores Rs. 6,91,298 and Indian stores Rs. 1,30,571) as against Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 4,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) at the beginning of 1923-24. General transactions

The total value of stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 13,35,936 (English stores Rs. 3,47,786 and Indian stores Rs. 9,88,150) as against Rs. 14,67,634 (English stores Rs. 11,11,905 and Indian stores Rs. 3,55,729) in 1923-24. Receipts

The total value of issues during the year amounted to Rs. 11,63,486 (English stores Rs. 6,14,440 and Indian stores Rs. 5,49,046) as against Rs. 12,86,797 (English stores Rs 9,12,572 and Indian stores Rs. 3,74,225) in 1923-24. Issues

The value of stationery debited to Local Funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year 1924-25 amounted to Rs. 39,683 as against Rs. 29,223 in 1923-24. Local funds

The value of closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 9,94,319 (English stores Rs. 4,24,644 and Indian stores Rs. 5,69,675) as against Rs. 8,21,869 (English stores Rs. 6,91,298 and Indian stores Rs. 1,30,571) at the end of 1923-24. Closing balance

## GOVERNMENT PRESS (1924-25)

293. The net receipts exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 13,909 due chiefly to recoveries on account of "Chargeable work." The receipts in the year amounted to Rs. 1,82,460. The expenditure fell from Rs. 7,65,428 to Rs. 7,49,209 due chiefly to restricted expenditure on overtime wages. Finance

294. Acts and books to the value of Rs. 87,655 were added to stock and the sales amounted to Rs. 91,190 against Rs. 94,463 in the previous year: of this sum, the sales effected by agents amounted to Rs. 5,406, or Rs. 5,206 less than the previous year, the decrease being probably due to the introduction of a cash sale system with effect from the 1st April 1924. The value of repealed Acts and Publications

MISCELLANEOUS

obsolete publications was Rs. 5,765, while that of free issues was Rs. 43,235 against Rs. 54,801 in 1923-24. This decrease was due to the reduction of the number of officers in the distribution lists. The total number of copies supplied free was 222,769 including 38,479 copies of proceedings placed on the "Editors' table."

Printing and binding

295. The number of standard pages printed during the year was 367,445 against 355,411 in the previous year. The cost per page decreased in all the four presses, and the general average per unit for the Madras presses was Rs. 1-5-6 against Rs. 1-5-11 in 1923-24. The number of impressions was 128,352,887 against 146,371,677 last year, while the cost per 1,000 impressions rose from Rs. 1-9-11 to Rs. 1-13-9, Rs. 2-5-1 to Rs. 2-6-9, As. 5-9 to As. 7-3 and Rs. 10-13-8 to Rs. 13-8-9 in the Central Press, Mount Road, Penitentiary and Ootacamund Branch presses, respectively. The general increase in the cost per 1,000 impressions was due to the fall in the demand for the number of standardized and non-standardized forms, while the decrease in the cost per page was due to the increased outturn on account of printing of a large number of resettlement registers and on account of the work from the Madras High Court.

The total number of hours paid for for authors' corrections during the year was 41,735 against 37,997 in the previous year, the increase being due to change of style effected in the Civil Budget Estimate and the printing of certain special publications.

The outturn of the Linotype machines was 11,047 against 2,284 pages in the previous year. The increase was due to the introduction of double shift system.

The total expenditure in binding amounted to Rs. 1,72,621 against Rs. 1,78,641 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the adoption of cheaper method of binding in the case of standardized forms and to the restriction of unnecessary and extravagant styles of binding.

Miscellaneous

296. The total outturn in the type-foundry during the year was 74,929 lb. compared with 90,953 lb. in the previous year.

The cost of supply and repairs to rubber stamps amounted to Rs. 5,943 against Rs. 7,082 in 1923-24, the decrease of nearly 16 per cent being mainly due to the cancellation of supplies to the officers of the Central Department in the Presidency.

During the year, plant, to the value of Rs. 2,05,069 was added as against Rs. 1,69,000 in the previous year and the year closed with a book balance of Rs. 14,11,301. The increase in expenditure on plant was due chiefly to the purchase of three new Linotype machines, five Double Crown Wharfedales, one Double Demy Lightning Proof Press, one improved Double Demy Hand Press and one Nipping machine.

The opening book value of stores on the 1st April 1924 was Rs. 2,59,129. Additions during the year amounted to Rs. 6,30,159 and issues to Rs. 7,22,141, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,67,147 at the end of the year.

Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses, scrutinized and passed during the year amounted to Rs. 357 compared with Rs 13,373 in 1923-24, the decrease being due to the taking over of the High Court printing. The value of bills checked for private bodies was Rs. 33,715 against Rs. 36,339 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the printing bills of the estates not having been scrutinized during the year.

The total number of forms and covers despatched during the year was 159 millions.

## THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1924)

[*Annual report of the Chemical Examiner's Department for 1924; G.O. No. 952, Local Self-Government (Public Health), dated 7th May 1925; Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal investigations*]

297. The work done by this department has showed a tendency to increase in recent years. The total number of analyses done in 1924 was 4,125 against 3,973 in the previous year and an average of 3,611 per annum for the previous 18 years. **Analyses**

298. The following medico-legal investigations were conducted :— **Medico-legal investigations**

Out of 234 cases of suspected human poisoning investigated, poison was detected in 100 cases; Human poisoning

the percentage of detection was thus 42·7. The most commonly found poisons in the year were opium (19 cases), arsenic and mercury (18 cases each). Aconite, atropine and strychnine were also common.

The number of cases of arsenic poisoning appears to have been steadily decreasing over a long period of years.

Animal poisoning

Up till the previous year there had been a steady decrease in the number of cases of animal poisoning under investigation, but the decrease was not maintained in the year under report. There were 54 cases with 186 articles in 1924 as against 40 cases with 141 articles in the previous year. However, this is still a good deal below the average of the previous ten years. Poison was detected in 22 out of the 54 cases. As in the previous year, yellow oleander or thevetin, its active principle, was the most common poison found.

Stains

During the year under report, 417 stain cases, which included 1,716 articles, were investigated. Both these numbers are records. 1,160 specimens of blood stains were sent to the Imperial Serologist, Calcutta.

Miscellaneous investigations

There were 44 miscellaneous medico-legal cases investigated; the number in 1923 was 35. The increase was chiefly due to the large number of bomb cases received (21 cases against 9 in the previous year).

**General analyses**

299. In addition to medico-legal investigations, the number of general analyses done during the year was 562 against 688 in 1923. The decrease is due to a smaller number having been received from the Customs Department and to the fact that stomach-washes after test meals are now being sent to the Biochemist by the General Hospital and not to the Chemical Examiner's Department.

Amongst the various experiments conducted, perhaps the one of most general interest was an investigation at the request of the Jail Department into the advisability of using zinc vessels for food. It was found that both tamarind juice and curry acted on the zinc if left in contact with it for over 24 hours. The vessel lost weight

and zinc was detectable in the curry or juice. Although zinc vessels have been in use in the jails of the Bombay Presidency for several years with apparent safety, it was not considered advisable to recommend the use of such vessels in this Presidency.

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## CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1924–25)

**General statistics**

300. There were 3,312 charitable institutions in the Presidency with an income of Rs. 19,59,653 and 20 muras of rice and 5 garces and 382 bandies of paddy. Of these institutions, 2,106 were maintained entirely by subscriptions and donations from the general public and by endowments in land and money, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 10·96 lakhs. Two hundred and ninety-eight institutions were supported by Government at a cost of Rs. 2·17 lakhs, and 172 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 3·87 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 736 institutions costing Rs. 2·6 lakhs devolved wholly or in part on local bodies.

**Purpose of institutions**

The purpose served by 2,146 of the institutions was the relief of travellers. Of these, 908 were "*General*," 1,180 were for Hindus, 54 for Muhammadans and 4 for Christians. Four hundred and ninety-four institutions were for the relief of Brahmans and these were almost entirely supported by the general public. The number of institutions intended for the relief of paupers was 485, while for orphans, the blind, the deaf and lepers, the total number was only 10. The aggregate number of persons aided during the year by all the charitable institutions is reported to be 12,946,150, an increase of 376,694 over the number aided in the previous year.

**Number aided**

**Triplicane Langarkhana**

301. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana, including an opening balance of Rs. 938, amounted to Rs. 6,008 as against Rs. 5,856 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 189. The number who received help in the previous year was 183.

**Monegar Choultry**

302. In the Monegar Choultry the average daily number of inmates was 91 against 96·36 in the previous year and the daily average cost of diet per pauper was As. 4–3 against As. 3–10 in the previous year. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 11,577 and the expenditure to Rs. 13,800 as against Rs. 12,795 in the previous year and Rs. 10,809 in 1922–23. The balance to the credit of the choultry at the end of the year was Rs. 2,007.

**Raja of Venkatagiri Choultry**

303. The daily average number of outdoor paupers (receiving $\frac{1}{4}$ measure or $\frac{3}{4}$ pound of raw rice daily) was 142·66 as against 123·08 in the previous year. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 4,026 and the total expenditure to Rs. 4,350. The expenditure in the previous year was Rs. 4,441 and in the year 1922–23, Rs. 3,053. The balance to the credit of the choultry on 31st March 1925 was Rs. 1,762. The balance at the end of the previous year was Rs. 2,086 and at the end of 1922–23, Rs. 2,500. The main item of expenditure is raw rice, the cost of which has increased from Rs. 3,228 to Rs. 4,231 in the year under report.

*N.B.*—The figures above are correct to the nearest rupee.

## Communal Representation in the Service of Government (1924–25)

304. The number of Government servants from each community employed in the service of Government on the 1st April 1925 is shown in the following table :–

| Community. | Gazetted officers. | Non-Gazetted officers | | Government servants on less than Rs. 35. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | On salaries of Rs. 100 per mensem and over. | On salaries from Rs. 35 to Rs. 100. | |
| Brahmans .. .. | 594 | 2,769 | 10,931 | 1,810 |
| Non-Brahmans ... ... | 280 | 1,366 | 7,003 | 37,125 |
| Indian Christians ... .. | 125 | 365 | 1,135 | 2,386 |
| Muhammadans ... ... | 59 | 254 | 1,479 | 11,817 |
| Europeans and Anglo-Indians .. ... ... | 481 | 399 | 219 | 23 |
| Depressed classes ... ... | ... | 1 | 41 | 1,198 |
| Others .. ... ... | 7 | 7 | 34 | 198 |

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